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domestic drama**

P.18

**STEPHEN
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BLOG CENTRAL



IAN WELLS
"I don't call it a completely impressive or national unity, although I'm afraid he was speaking English and the only fragment that made it into my notebook was, 'This is something we should stop to do.'"
macleans.ca/wells



ANDREW COYNE'S BLOG
"Brian Elz Termes are as a points to someone everyone they mean it this time, I can only assume they don't."
macleans.ca/coyne



SAVAGE WAINWRIGHT
"The Democratic Convention spectacle has just begun. Please to Republicans, there was a prayer. And the Prayer of Abigail." macleans.ca/wainwright



THE COMMONS
"When I hear bills to be charming, he sounds something like Pat Sajak."
macleans.ca/willroy

TOP STORIES THIS WEEK

THE REPUBLICANS' PARTY

After a week in Denver with the Democrats, Lutfi Ch. Senay travels to Minneapolis to report on the Republican Convention during Sept. 1. macleans.ca/senay

WEB POLL RESULTS

Who do you blame for the dysfunction in Parliament?



THIS WEEK'S POLL macleans.ca/yield

COMING SOON



LIVE AT TIFF
Film critic Brian D. Johnson blogs about the biggest movies and little-known gems at the Toronto International Film Festival beginning Sept. 4. macleans.ca/tiff

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THE HARDSHIPS faced by the Mankanis would've been less for people, whites & older

all Canadians. Honesty, pride, hard work, perseverance, modesty, generosity and basic decency are values too often overlooked by those of us who would rather whine about what we lack in our lives. The hardships faced by the Mankanis—imprisonment, racism, betrayal, and the loss of all they had worked to accomplish for five decades—would have been less for people, whites & older. Richard and Rosa Mankani show a remarkable spirit of charity. It is people like them who embody all that a true Canadian can be, no matter what his or her ethnic background.
Jessie Haber, Ashcroft, Alta.

A 'RUSH' JOB?

LEF'S NOT the record straight about Toronto Mayor David Miller's response to the recent propane depot explosion ("A week in the life of David Miller, Seven Days, Aug. 25). He may have "rushed" to Toronto from his Vancouver vacation, but he also "trooped" right back. Of course that was only after repeated efforts to blame everyone but himself and his own counsel for what happened. Real leaders stick around until the crisis is over.

Chris Potts, Ottawa

STILL COMING ON STRONG

CONGRATULATIONS on having the courage to publish Maurice Strang's article in support of China ("Does China have it right?" World, Aug. 18), while CBC's anti-China propaganda keeps mislabeling Canadians and angering most Chinese readers here. Just imagine that before and during the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics, Chinese media gave fantastic reports on the following issues: within grounds and the possibility of their language and culture in the madrasah schools; drug users in Vancouver's Downtown East

side; the near death of a Polish immigrant at the Vancouver airport; and the native girl raped by the Prince George judge. How would we react to that?
R.J. Chen, Kelowna, B.C.

MAURICE STRONG spouts the official party line just as well as any good party member. I thought I was back in China, once again reading the China Daily (China's English newspaper, government-controlled like all great media). Like he admits himself, it's obvious Strong's "caught up in the momentum of the revealing dysfunction of the unprecedented transition that this great nation is experiencing." It's easy to fall in love with something exotic and exciting. Somebody should tell Strong that love is blind.
Marne Kerby, Kingston, Ont.

FIGHTING DIRTY ON THE HILL

LEAD John Gidder's article about the fighting going on in parliamentary committees with apprehension ("This is not your father's sit," National, Aug. 21). It is unfortunate that our parliamentarians drag the entire of question period into the committee sessions. It might be perceived as a provocation to induce the government to call an election this fall. I would most earnestly counsel the Prime Minister against taking such a course. I'd like to remind him that we have a law, Bill C-16, which states that each general election must be held on the third Monday of October in the fourth calendar year following polling day for the last general election. In this case, that would be Oct. 19, 2008. I consider it to be the worst kind of corruption when our political representatives think they do not have to obey their own laws.
Werner Greis, Cranfield, Alta.

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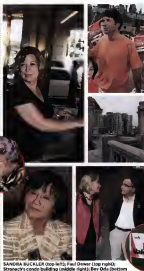


MITCHEL RAPHAEL ON A BY-ELECTION FLAG FLAP, BELINDA'S CONDO AND LIFE AFTER THE PMO

BUCKLER CELEBRATES AT McDONALD'S

Stephen Harper's recently departed director of communications, Sandra Buckler, has been given a clean bill of health by doctors who had been treating her for thyroid cancer. All summer long she couldn't eat any iodinated salt because of her special diet. She used lobster rolls at home, but eating out was difficult. After being told she was cancer-free, she celebrated by going to McDonald's for a salt tin. She held the job for 23 long months, before her people left and gave in the position like a revolving door. She is now ready to buckle back into her life. "While she was in the PMO she received over 3,000 emails a day. Now she no longer has to worry about such Tory communication details as ensuring that Defence Minister Peter MacKay's forehead doesn't shine. (She eventually got him to use anti-shine blotting tissue.) As soon as word got out she was leaving, Buckler received calls from lobby groups begging her to sign on. None, she recalled, had read the Federal Access to Information Act passed by the Tories. It requires a five-year waiting period before people in her position can lobby the government."

THE CABINET MINISTER'S GLASSES
Minister of International Cooperation and Special Economic Affairs, Bev Oda, has eleven pairs of glasses and two pairs of prescription sunglasses. "My former passion used to be shoes," says Oda. "After so many pairs of shoes, the next thing to look at was the glasses." She goes her eyes from Justin Barry Optical in her Durham, Ont., riding. "She's one of my better customers," says Barry. "She used to have a real old lady



SANDRA BUCKLER (top left); Paul Dewar (top right); Stronach's condo building (middle right); Bev Oda (bottom left); Frank Valeriote with Liberal MP Carolyn Bennett (bottom right); (inset) Donna Bonar, Valeriote's campaign sign

frame and after people complimented her on her new glasses, she got more." Barry gave her two special black ones (then each held six pairs with metal tags so she could see through them). Notes the minister, "It was getting a little frustrating to have to open each case to see which pair was made." For fancy occasions, Oda has a pair of gala glasses that have "tiny little" diamonds on them. "I like elegance, but subtle elegance. They are

not the kind of glasses Diane Kruger-Savage wears." Note the minister inspired by eyewear icon Rhonda Johnson in the glasses department. "You know what I find? Those Johnnies magnifying font. His flower arrangements."

STOMACH SOLD!
At this year's Ottawa gay pride parade NDP MP Paul Dewar marched behind the party's new punk Jack Layton banner while the region's gay hockey

league played under Stephen Harper's office on Wellington Street. Dewar says he is ready for an election in his Ottawa Centre riding that has him up against Liberal candidate Penny Caloway, wife of former Liberal cabinet minister David Collier, and Tory candidate Brian McGarry, who is in the funeral home business. Dewar says this time around it is a lot harder finding spots for campaign offices in Ottawa. In other Ottawa real estate news, Liberal MP Belinda Stronach, who announced in April 2007 she wouldn't be running in the next election, finally sold her condo, which was next door to the Parliament Hill Library. It had been on the market since August 2007.

LIBERAL FLAGGED

Carleton, Ont., Liberal candidate Frank Valeriote is causing a by-election flag in that riding. Valeriote (who hates having his picture taken while wearing glasses) has the Canadian flag on his eyes, causing both Greens and NDPers to grumble. "Since when do the Liberals own the flag?" A design expert quoted in the local paper also said he didn't like the sign on "bump."

DION AND GOD

When Sam Dion disappeared as CTS's Michael Corcoran Silver, he used the word "God" twice when talking about the conversion. Michael Corcoran Silver and asked the Liberal leader if his people had told him to refer to God because CTS is a faith-based network. Dion replied in the affirmative. ■

ON THE WEB: For more Ottawa outtakes or to contact Mitchel Raphael, visit mitchelrap.com or mitchelrap@gmail.com

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late-term
abortions,
er, rather,
elections

Dien had made regarding a private member's bill from Ken Epp, a Conservative back benches Epp was the patron of Bill C-484 the Unborn Victims of Crime Act, which would make it an offence "to injure, cause the death of or attempt to cause the death of

St. Dennis, who told neither a "publicly pro-choice" and who voted against Ely's "Unborn Victims of Crime" bill, wasn't he flabbergasted to hear his bill described as an "abortion bill"? The PM's guy "either hadn't read the bill when he called it that, "or *relied* on it."

And there things would have stayed, if the



**PAUL
WELLS**

PAUL WELLS

The other day, "sources close to Prime Minister Stephen Harper"—we have to presume that way, but if you grace who I mean, you'll probably guess right—summarized the Ottawa bureau chiefs of the country's large news organizations to a two-day conference room at Parliament Hill. There were cocktails and caviar. But no Diet Coke. Clearly they don't know me. The point of the meeting was to explain to a not-for-fee attribution team, why Stephen Harper is planning to call an election

Now here's the Prime Minister, and what's he doing? Manipulating the calendar. Why's he doing it? For short-term political advantage!

But it's not as though there's a law against that.

There is?

...be, if only for novelty's sake—the Franc Minier is a nice sheepish about all it is, although not sheepish enough to...you know, how

A woman with blonde hair tied back, wearing a white shirt, is holding a yellow sign. The sign has the text "WE ARE NEVER GOING BACK" written on it in black marker. The word "ARE" is written in a smaller font and is partially obscured by a large, stylized black arrow pointing from "WE" to "NEVER". The background is slightly blurred, showing other people and what appears to be a building entrance.

Our special benefit
ing in the race confer-
ence room happened
on a Friday. The fol-
lowing Monday, Rob
Nicholson, the Justice

Harper's been sheepish about the election law, though not so much as to keep his word

Reverdy Duce said he opposed the bill because he supports a woman's right to choose. He called on Harner to state his own views.

disabilities. After briefing his reporters in the news conference room with Coke and coauthors, the Prime Minister's men pointed to Dyer's remarks as more evidence that "there must be an election in the air."

One of the Prime Minister's men said it was odd for Dorn to be opposing Egg's bill, now because the Commons has already voted on it. Which is true, and Dorn didn't bother to show up for the vote. Also true. And that 27 Liberal MPs voted in favour of Egg's bill, which makes the bill a bit problematic if you want to use it as evidence of fundamental differences between Liberal and Conservative.

Manor, visited the National Press Theatre to say the government was abandoning its support for Egg's bill. Instead it would introduce a new bill, adding the month's pregnancy as an aggravating circumstance for sentencing purposes. That would prove the Harper government has no agenda to criminalize abortion. *Nith also said.*

Nicholsen couldn't provide a text of the bill, but he doesn't need to. What he proposes is rigorously identical to what Ernst St. Denis has advocated as his private member's bill since May.

A ranking Conservative had behind anonymity to amend St. Dennis's bill as "an abortion bill" on Friday. The Conservative minister of justice presented the substance of St. Dennis's bill as his own on Monday, as proof the Harperites don't support abortion. The surge continues to push the government to heights of cynicism. Or is the cynicism that has produced the disaster? ■

ON THE WEB: For more Paul Wells, visit his blog at www.ectane.ca/paulwells

A 350-pound Sleeping Beauty wakes up



BARBARA AMIEL

There ought to be a name for the period when artists who have lived in a repressive regime get a bit of sunlight and a lot of their art start pouring out with their tongues off. I've never seen so many artists as on the walls of the artists' quarter in Beijing. I suppose it is the post-penal period. Given the comic life-sized ponds, very jolly looking, set on a studio floor holding his ever red penis in his hand. If the panda was modelled from life, that night explains the shortage of them: what's needed is less self-censorship and more involvement with lady ponds.

Our little group of eight treaded around the studios of artists now commanding million-dollar prices in SoHo's auctions. We pecked about in very famous artist Zhang Xiaogang's place while he watched at a very friendly manner. I was especially disposed to like work after he told an interviewer on CNN that for him the Cultural Revolution was rather fun. He was eight years old when it began and got to the pretty much whatever he wanted. That struck me as a very honest answer, not the sort of thing you get from former Red Guards or most of the 1st Red Guards the 19th century has provided in such numbers. The answer as to why his work hadn't been shown for years was elegant: "The government never said I couldn't display my work, they just said it was a problem of different artistic perspectives."

My own favorite was the new work of Zeng Fanzhi, which, as I told his gallery manager, Tullio Galateria, was. The gallery manager was suitably incredulous and replied "Yes, he does well at auctions." I'll say US\$17.7 million last May for one work. Zeng is a child of the Cultural Revolution as well. Growing up Mao's experiment must have been painful. Still, obviously good night for me when you look at the work of these children of chaos.

So, China has million-dollar artists, great

restaurants embracing the new Hissao foodies, in one of the few old buildings in Beijing that survived the fan of Mao's "democratic revolution" unleashed by the Cultural Revolution. There are glossy magazines, the *Red Paper*, Beijing *Tatler*, and even professional writing studios ("opposite to the north gate of 'Workers' Stadium"). There are futuristic skyscrapers and Western boutiques, if not as many as the premier shopping city of Shanghai. And though you could glimpse parks and fish hidden behind frothy painted high walls and sheltered hot hot areas without (necessarily)

CHINESE ARTIST Zhang Xiaogang at his studio in Beijing.



"Take one now," the female security guard commanded breezily, smiling. I took.

glanced (and some appointed) trees that lived all the rooms at the Olympics, their two dingy China's amazing progress in the more casual area. I don't think anyone, the national government included, has a clue what's going on in the rest of that huge country.

Openness in the Olympics were all that a good totalitarian state can do. Big signs watched from air-conditioned boxes, laser-activated ordered in 100' ft high. The incredible drum display that opened the Games, four rows in front of me, was seen in its precision and power. The spectacle that followed had moments of indelible beauty (and ghastly sentimentality), with, underneath it all, the stamp of militarism. For centuries China has been humiliated, having to punch under its weight in an uneven display for so great a people. Now, punching at its own weight, we are discovering just how incensed that is. The Chinese say it rather like the price: killing *Sleeping Beauty* only to find he was waiting that she weighs a healthy 350 lb and the bed is cracking under her thunderous thighs.

At the moment, the People's Republic of China remains a fairly hideous philosophy in which terror and suppression play their part and nationalism is supreme. JOE Pro-

ctor Jacques Rogge expressed "surprise" at Beijing's demonstrations at the Games even though these sites had been earmarked for them. He joked *Allegedly* under the Chinese gymnasts don't bother me a whole lot. It's a silly rule anyway given the unusual life most athletes lead from age five—but wanting for additional papers to establish their legitimacy is another joke in a country that didn't need Communism to give the art of Beijing cultural respectability.

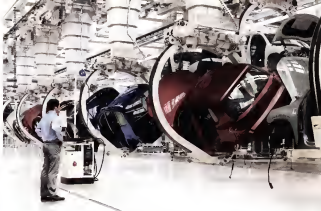
My bed at the Doris Tang's China Club, where I was his guest, was out of this world.

But slightly out of this world too was the atmosphere in Beijing. Talk about horse-drawn Manchurian Carriages. "Take this," said the security-guard female security guard at the Olympics in the second of the 11 pills of 14th-century handling. My prescription medicine got a different treatment. "Take one now," she commanded breezily, smiling. Rather than have it confiscated, I "took" and consequently was happily topped with unusually frenetic energy.

They'll learn. What's scary is that as the games, the hotel and the infrastructure all improve, the system itself remains the same: totalitarian. But it's a system able to reasonably reward its citizens, one that could really survive and grow. The Soviet Union overextended, walked outwards, perished by its own ideology, had an internal collapse. The Nazis were so aggressive that they bit off more than they could chew. But imagine how awful it would have been if the three-and-a-half-year Reich had shown restraint and actually gone on for a thousand years, if Hitler had not stupidly wanted to do everything in his own lifetime, but just laid the foundations of a Nazi empire.

China is huge, but its need for natural resources is vast. It needs Lebensraum as much as Germany ever did. Imagine a "One World, One Dream" dreamer and Chinese totalitarianism, pity and wonderful at the Olympics, growing and expanding in reality globalist system over Asia. Imagine "hard" to talk or for the far and on edge too... John Lennon, who would have loved the Pussycat village of the Olympics club, love and smile, had it open too. ■

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'I was in shock. My eyeballs were open and my mouth was saying "What?!? I don't believe this, I don't believe this!"'

CARTOONIST LYNN JOHNSTON TALKS TO ANNE KINGSTON ABOUT THE NEW 'FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE' AND HER OWN DOMESTIC DRAMA

Cartoonist Lynn Johnston returns to the drawing board this month with *For Better or For Worse*, North America's most popular comic strip, syndicated to over 2,000 newspapers. She had planned to retire the 28-year-old strip that chronicles the domestic lives of the Patterson family. But the unexpected breakdown of her 30-year marriage last year prompted her to return to work. "I was in such shock, experience, the North York, Ont., residence will mean the story from day one was a mix of old and new things."

Q Retelling the Patterson family story with new circumstances are not cathartic or expressive regression.

A: [Laughs] Actually it's one of those neat experiments that you know is working as soon as you get started on it. At first I thought, "Maybe it should go back and forth in time." But the year that I tried that was a year that I had some personal chaos and I found it really hard to concentrate. It didn't flow. And I would have to keep developing the characters and I would have even less time than I have now to do it. So I ended the story. It comes on a full stop the last week of August. The whole month of August has been the wedding of Anthony and Elizabeth. Some people are thrilled with the wedding, some people aren't. I don't care. They're happy, they want to get married, and it's going to be good. And, really, the whole

story is about marriage and how you deal with the far-better-or-for-worse, and that was what I wanted to point out.

Q Is that so obvious to your new marriage suddenly ending for "the worse" a year ago?

A: Oh, yeah, that was a shock! I had no idea, you know? I knew that there were things not working, but I kept thinking, "When I'm retired, we'll work it out." But there was no communication, no discussion, and suddenly I find that there's another woman in the picture. So I sat there when I found out, absolutely stunned, thinking, "What's wrong with this story?"

Q You've said you expected to be retired, traveling through the Mediterranean with your husband at this point in life.

A: And had made those plans, and to have that, you know... You know, it was in shock for several days. My eyeballs were open and my mouth was open saying, "What?!? I don't believe this, I don't believe this!"

Q Did you ever consider incorporating the breakup into your work?

A: No. It's far too personal, and it's far too stressful, and if I can enjoy a fantasy world along with everybody else then I should just keep doing that. You know, if I start to put what really happened in the strip it's unfair to my family.

Q But you've touched on significant issues in your life before—a character who comes out of the closet, abusive relationships...

A: But not divorce.

Q No, not divorce, which makes me wonder

if one of the reasons the cartoon has been such a sanctuary of comfort is because the Pattersons have their ups and downs but remain solid at the core.

A: That's what I thought I had! I was divorced once before, so all of that marriage is still there. I was thinking of using that, in that sense—Ellie's neighbor—her marriage is not working too well, but I never worked it into the strip.

Q But recently you recycled an old strip in which Ellie had a nervous dream that her husband John leaves her for another woman.

A: Yes, it was so prophetic. I thought, "You know what? I'm going to just throw that in there." I think it's funny; it's no-doubt.

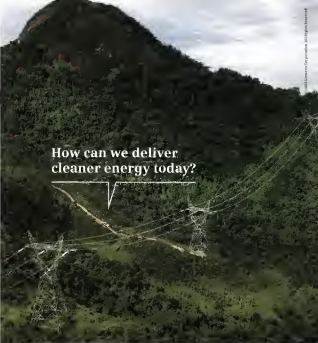
Q So that was a dream that you had during your own marriage?

A: Well, [my former husband] worked with beautiful women ever since I met him. He's a dentist. He has hygienists and front-desk girls, and there are usually eight girls around him all the time, and he used to travel to the Native villages taking his staff with him, and people in the town would look at me as if to say, "Well, get in the club," because in a small northern mining town there's a lot of cheating around, and the joke was you can steal a man's wife, but you don't touch his woodpile, you know? It was turned up here.

Q Adultery as a form of interrelationship where you live?

A: It was recreation. It was like a high school,

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all these different personalities thrown into one inescapable place where you had to be there together all the time, whether you wanted to or not, and someone you hated might run out to be the guy at the bar that you're hitting the sack with next year, you know? I didn't have time for that, not did I want it, but it was there in the town. But I thought there was safety in numbers if he was with a bunch of girls. And they were all really nice people. But I thought to myself, "If I'm going to be a pitiful wife, I'll drive myself crazy."

Q: Later in *Life* divorce is rampant. I wrote a story last year for *Maxwell's* about it titled "The 25-Year itch."

A: I've also heard it called "The Viagra disease."

Q: This is your second divorce. The town must be as difficult as the naps, you were a young mother of one son the first time, now you have two grown children.

A: Well, thank goodness they're adult children. It was mostly hard on them anyway. My heart goes out to the younger moms who have children at home who are torn between the two and have to spend time between two families. It's so difficult. But [my husband and I] had very individual lives. He had lots of hobbies, and I spent a lot of time on my own, and so being on my own is not something that I'm uncomfortable with. I think I've coped really, really well. When I was divorced the first time, I met another young woman who was also divorced. Actually, what happened with her was her husband took her to the hospital as she was having her second baby and she never came again.

Q: How lonely?

A: Yeah, and the two of us were looking at each other saying, "You know what? We're really nice people, we're worth keeping," and we supported each other through being around new moms with new babies and on our own. We were happy to help other people through this time we'd survived. We had our survival mechanisms, which we thought was superb. And the first thing that was never to be said again, because if you look at the mirror at three in the morning and you've been crying all night and you're saying, "Well, no wonder he left me. Look at you!"

Q: That's such a female response, to blame yourself.

A: Yeah. We had no money, so we went to the Salvation Army and we bought the best negligees I mean, who wears a negligee? You wear it one night, it goes to the Salvation Army, so that's the best place to go to buy a fancy, swanky negligee. So we would go to

bed and we would do our hair, our makeup. We'd call each other at 11 o'clock at night: "Hey, babe, you look good!" "Oh, I look great. Did you do your nails?" "Yeah, I did my nails." "Great." Then we'd go to bed looking great, feeling good, and would call each other in the morning.

Q: You were sleeping down but better or For Worse when the marriage dissolved. Do you see any connection?

A: I think catching someone feeling awful is... it's the end.

Q: Certainly adultery is a recurrent marital theme.

A: Do you know what it is? It's conscience. If you're not happy, with it over. Some marriages are worth keeping if there's a really good basis for it, an emotion where's gone on, because at this stage of our lives there's so much happiness, so much family, so much... not just possessions, but mental possessions, like the time we did that, and when we did that, and all the wonderful history there. When you're in your declining years, your memories are so important, and your family and friends. Do you really want to throw that away and start a brand new life with brand-new people?

Q: I think there's a desire to be revulsed or to reinvent oneself, however mythic, that propels people to seek someone new.

A: Well, number of people that I know—three actually—who have gone through this, the partner who took off for the new, better life, lived it for maybe 10 years and then was devastated that they didn't have the old life. Because they realized what they left for isn't as valuable as what they built for 10 years. But it's gone now, it's just memories. And it's hard for me to imagine passing by the man I lived with for 10 years and just saying a pleasant "Hello" to the supermarket.

Q: Or you ever cross paths?

A: I've never seen him. I mean, it's a small town so he probably knows what I'm doing and I probably know a little bit of what he's doing, but my life is rolling along and I have a very full life. I've had a lot of fun, actually. I've really enjoyed being single after you pass through the shock, then it's like, "Well, I can do anything I want. I can go anywhere I want." One of the things I've been wanting to do for years and years is to go to South America and be a translator, and I went to Peru this year and I worked for two weeks as a translator with the Medical Missionaries, and I had a wonderful time.

Q: Your work now gives you the flexibility to do that?

A: Oh, sure, absolutely, because I won't have to do as much and a Sunday every week I might do three dishes, I might do five, I might do one, it all depends on how well the

classic material works into what I'm doing now. The man is already written, and the backgrounds are already drawn. I don't have to devise another character.

Q: Revisiting history isn't an opportunity we have in life, only art.

A: No, isn't a great thing? I am so excited by this, because it's the best of all worlds. I got to fix my mistakes. You can't change the past but you can perhaps tell the story a little more clearly.

Q: You talk about making a new generation with the strip but it's a very different generation than existed in the '50s, pre-Internet, pre-YouTube. How are you adjusting to that?

A: Well, I've just gone past a couple of strips that were really funny—they were both about a typewriter, and those are both gone. Not because I didn't think they were good. I just didn't think it would go. So it's not as



"We had no money so we went to the Salvation Army and bought the best negligees"

if I'll change things, I just won't include them if they don't have any relationship to today.

Q: What has readers' reaction to your own marital split been?

A: Well, people want to know a lot about it, and it's nobody's business but mine, you know? And they're mad because it was a fantasy. And I was sad for them because I wanted to give them a real family behind the family on the strip that was together and communicated and could see through... see each other though all the ups and downs. ■

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HARPER'S PATRIOT GAMES

Arctic sovereignty is just one way the Tories can reclaim the flag



ANDREW COYNE

There was when a prime minister on the cusp of an election campaign would spend those last few days before the vote girding himself through the most populous regions—"vote-rich Ontario," say, or "buckle ground" Quebec. Stephen Harper? Not so much. With an election call reportedly in his ear, the Prime Minister went out instead with several members of his cabinet to the Far North, a three-day tour with stops in Inuvik, Tuktoyaktuk, and Dawson. Population, some lined 5,000. There was little in the way of election planning, but also a demonstration of the government's commitment to defending "Canada's Arctic sovereignty." Perhaps the two are not so incongruous as they seem.

In fact, Canada's Arctic sovereignty is getting along just fine, thank you. For all the emphasis the Conservatives have placed on it—"see it or lose it," in Harper's famous formulation—and for all the reports of hyper-ventilation, the Russians are coming right along. It has received as much in the media, no one is actually threatening to invade Canada's frozen North. Neither is there much day after day Canada's territorial waters—the ribbon of ice along our coast, 200 nautical miles wide, that international law acknowledges as ours. Even the much bolder claim we have lately advanced in the waters beyond the 200-mile limit, reaching to far as the North Pole, is for the most part uncontested.

It's true that other nations—the United States, Russia, Norway, Denmark—have their own claims to the Arctic waters, or more importantly to the fabulous deposits of oil and gas beneath. But the overlap, at least where Canada is concerned, are surprisingly narrow: a sliver of the Beaufort Sea, where we are in conflict with the Americans, and another near the North Pole, which the Russians claim as theirs. Oh, and the fabled Northwest Passage, which global warming may soon make accessible? The one Canadian icebreaker is thought from childhood beliefs to go. So there we're about the only ones who think so.

It isn't hurt our case, and may help, if we belabor our physical presence in the North. Certainly we should hope that the Arctic popu-



A SOVEREIGNTY PATROL ON REMOTE ISLAND, HARPER'S TO DO MUCH DISGUISE OUR DILEMMA

are divided by something resembling a legal process, rather than by military force or international law-free will. And there are good reasons—environmental, security—why it would be everybody's interest for Canada to continue to police the passage. But on its merits, the question of Arctic sovereignty would not seem to warrant anything like the attention it has received from this government.

It does, however, serve an important political objective—namely, as part of the Conservatives' efforts to rebrand themselves as the Canada Party, or perhaps as the "Canada Party" to devote an alternative language and symbolism of patriotism to the one so successfully exploited once the year by the Liberals. The North is an important part of that strategy—in Harper's parlance, "Canada

is central to our national identity as a northern nation"—but it is only a part.

Politics in Canada has always been a battle for ownership of the national idea. Other countries have elections about where the country should be going; ours are about what the country is. When Sir John A. Macdonald abandoned his pursuit of reciprocity in 1876, he did not call the high-stakes platform he improvised (it is) place the protectionist policy or the Conservative policy; he called it the National Policy.

In the first decades after Confederation, the Conservatives were indubitably the Canada Party, the party of Empire and Union, where the Liberals were the party of continentalism and provincial rights. But at once, with the decline of Empire and the rise of the

welfare state, the Liberals showed themselves. The state, on Liberal ideology, was not merely a provider of public services: it was the very essence of Canada—not only the defender of our distinctiveness from the American col-

onists of the right. The abandoned right left in Britain or France or the United States is obliged to reject, not merely the parties of the right, but the entire public realm they espouse. He must stand a little apart from his own country. Wherein Canada, that same disaffected youth would back in Establishment approval. He might even be publicly fended.

In consequence, the most fervent Canadian patriots have tended to be found on the left: it was on the right where you found the more and the embittered. Told that to reject the Liberals was to reject Canada, many, especially in the West, rejected both (though not, happily, a majority). Harper himself once notoriously proposed creating a constitutional "Moosehead" around Alberta, to defend against encroachments from the rest of Canada. Needless to say, this deepened the Conservative dilemma.

If the Conservatives were to succeed, as Harper intends, not simply in winning gov-

HE WANTS TO REBRAND THE TORIES AS THE CANADA PARTY, OR PERHAPS REDEFINE THE COUNTRY ITSELF

ernment, but in establishing themselves as permanent contenders for power, it would not be enough just to offer an alternative set of policies. If they wanted to redefine Canadian politics, they had to change not only the words but the melody they had to invent a distinctly Conservative patriotism. Or at least, one that was not so obviously Liberal.

The realisation was slow to dawn. The party platform in 2004 (Harper: Demand Better) outlined a program in stark contrast to the party's formation and the election call, was fairly straightforward declaration of Conservative policies, if we wanted down Farm. By 2006, however, the language had changed. The slogan this time: Build Up for Canada.

Not Dead Uprights what? Not the United States' occasional fits of expediency to the contrary, the Conservatives will use themselves as committed first order, good ideas. And not the provinces the Conservatives remain the party of provincial rights. The Arctic, however, was just ripe enough to fit the bill. Rather than pursue a belated voyage to our neighbors to the south, as an Liberal politician, the Conservatives would have to shift our gaze northward—was "defending Canadian sovereignty" or rather lost rescue. To be sure, it still involves the old conflict with the Americans—remember Harper's brush back after American soldiers in over the Northwest Passage, shortly after taking office—but nothing like the border of old.

The outline of an alternative Canadian patriotism can also be seen in Harper's embrace of the Afghanistan mission. The Liberals had hoped for reluctant allies, even as they announced troops in Kandahar it was mostly a dodge to stay out of Iraq. Harper jumped in with both feet. The language he used on his first visit in telling "caring and raising," he told the troops, "is not the Canadian way." Nor was "caring from the sidelines," but "making a stand.... A country that really leads, not a country that just follows—stepping up to the plate, doing good when good is required."

So much for our vision of ourselves as a kind of Swiss army, always ready to mediate between sides, never to choose a side. It wasn't quite "ask not what your country can do for you," but it was as close as any Canadian leader had come in a long while. The pride in a country it involved—arguing, demanding, still something—was of an altogether different kind than we were used to.

It was new, but it was also old: retrieving one wartime self-image, carried through two world wars, after twenty years in peacekeeping straits. Much of Liberal patriotism seemed to suggest that history began in 1968. The Tories consistently appeal to an older history, half-forgotten memories. Take their approach to Quebec. Leave aside the policies, which are nearly the usual pandering. It's the language that's interesting. Canada was "born in French." Quebec is the "heart of Canada," the founding of Quebec City the founding of Canada.

There's an attempt to superimpose Canadian nationalism on Quebec. At best, it is almost the reverse, putting the party nation after once a Canadian's neck, integrating Quebec's unity into a larger Canadian story. Taxes, Medicare, are detached to present as something new. Rather, they're old, it is a return to a more authentic past, to the true values of the Fathers. It's a stretch—St. John A. would be astonished to learn he was a provincial rights advocate—but it is yet another attempt to position the Tories as the Canada Party.

This outreach even to the smallest detail. When the Prime Minister's website under the Liberals was weak in the end, under the Tories it was a full-blown. The slogan on the main government site—The True North Strong and Free—might seem arbitrary. It is, after all, from the anthem. But it would not have occurred to the Liberals to use it. Strong and Free? What does that mean and divine?

North means north, albeit never because borders, like victory risk, right versus left is not, but a new creation. Conservatives are trying to create. It is a new patriotism. ■



WILL JACK FALL DOWN?

He's criticizing Dion, mugging with Tories, and fans aren't happy

BY AARON WICKERT • Jack Layton laughs a lot for a socialist. And maybe that's the problem.

His good humor does make it easy to understand how the NDP leader might have found himself in a pair of photos posted gleefully to the Internet by a Conservative blogger in June. Both pictures show Layton mugging with one of the young, yellow-clad disciples of Stephen Harper dispatched around downtown Ottawa to denigrate NDP leader Dion's carbon tax. In one, Layton, his jacket flung over his shoulder, strikes a serious face and, while the Conservatives smile

gleefully, aims his right index finger at the caricature of Dion printed on their garish shirts. "I have got thousands of photos of people who have come up to me and said, 'Jack, can we take our picture with you,'" Layton explains, laughing. "I don't say no."

Maybe so. For those who fear as much, here surely was proof that in his dogged pursuit of power, Layton has lost sight of his party's principles. "I was publicly critical of the language the Prime Minister was using because I actually welcomed the debate about the pricing of carbon," Layton confesses, now serious. "I do not associate myself with the Harper attack on the pricing of carbon." Still, the NDP prefers a rip and tear model, a system with the unfortunate laid-off less for Layton—of being loosely endorsed by John Baird.)

LAYTON could find himself a vote-splitting asset to a future Conservative majority

Whatever the symbolic value of those photos, there is still something real about the predicament in which Layton finds himself on the eve of a likely fall election—made to oppose parties and policies on both the left and right without winning either or, worse, a vote-splitting asset to a future Conservative majority. All of which would be ironic if, as emphatically argued by some, Layton would just abandon the one thing he is clearly supposed to do: "There are some people who think that if you win seats, you must've done something wrong," he says. "But most have betrayed some principle. The most principled person wouldn't win any seats. Well, I'm not that kind of leader."

His leadership is presently the subject of some debate. With the Regains Manifesto, the founding document of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (which became the NDP), celebrating its 75th anniversary in July, this has been a summer of some consternation for the socialist side. Another excuse—not that one is generally needed—to ward off over ownership of Tommy Douglas's ghost.

In July, *This Magazine*, that bastion of leftist thought, got Layton on its cover as a mugged-up mug shot, figuratively charged with crimes against the cause. "I believe the party has fallen on 'bad times,'" wrote socialist-in-cloak James Lauer, calling for a return to the scrappy, anti-capitalist ideals of the "movement." His lament was bolstered by quotes from the likes of writer Linda McQuinn and historian Michael Bliss, each similarly pessimistic about the NDP's future, but perhaps most cutting were the comments of *This* editor James Johnston. "While many of us vote New Democrats," she wrote, "fewer and fewer feel excited about doing so."

In his own essay on the anniversary of the Regains Manifesto, author and activist Gerald Caplan echoed Lauer's call for a more principled party. In an editorial, the *Toronto Star* warned the NDP's liberal blood fest, blaming it for the stalling of progressive initiatives. Lynn McDonald, an NDP MP from 1983-1985, used the *Star's* pages to rebuke the Dion carbon tax and curse Layton's opposition tout. "The NDP has historically been a leader in advocating social justice, but not now," she wrote. And when former NDP MP Rod Scott re-charged last week to endorse Dion, he bitterly dismissed Layton as "no Tommy Douglas."

This latest batch of angst may have something to do with the fact that here, in the less-than-revered realm of political reality, the NDP's rise appears to have stalled. Or at least quipped. The summer news cycle has been dominated by Don-Deen-She and the Prime Minister's

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farious opposition to come, leaving little room for or TV time for the NDP ("No different than any other mainstream party," Layton chuckled). The Green party, though still an unknown quantity, continues to poll just high enough to be noticed ("I'm kind of jealous of their name," Layton jokes). And in between, the NDP has slipped slightly from the 15% popular share of support it achieved in the last election (Rivers suggests that has been an awkward summer for the NDP leader. In July, Buzsacki-Ladner's singer Steven Page, perhaps Layton's most prominent celebrity supporter, was beset by drug-related charges.)

The debate of principles and power and whether the two are mutually exclusive is one New Democrats have always wrangled with. Layton has always explicitly sought power, and with some electoral success at that. In 2004, he led the party back over two million votes, then to 29 seats and 2.6 million votes in 2006. This made him something of a hero. Apparently it will be because a trailer "Stuffy,"



I'M KIND OF JEALOUS OF THEIR NAME,' LAYTON JOKES OF THE GREEN PARTY. THE NDP HAS SLIPPED SLIGHTLY IN POLLS OF LATE.

Layton almost wept in this, "the NDP has evolved into a party much like the others." Layton does not struggle to respond. "The complaint about us focusing on winning seats, I thought that was the purpose. And I have no doubt in my mind that Tommy Douglas thought that that was the purpose," he says. "They're rejected that dichotomy totally and explicitly because heathen about pragmatic principles. He said, what's the point of advocating health care for everybody if you can never make it happen. In fact, that was his single word."

THE RIGHT PHOTO-OP: posing with young Tories, and (left) the Steven Page

And with Douglas long gone, Layton has gone about the business of finding suitable politicians. "For me," he says, "what's been exciting has been the quality of the candidates that are making the decision to come on." More than a year ago, Layton recruited Thomas Mulcair, a former minister in Jean Charest's Quebec Liberal government and, since Mulcair's by-election

victory in Chateaufort, the "scar candidate" has become central to the Layton agenda. Françoise Boivin, a former Liberal MP, will run for the NDP in Gatineau. Ray Manta, former leader of the Alberta NDP, will seek office in Edmonton. And Academic Michael Dwyer will attempt to wrest Liberal Phipps in Vancouver. In September's by-elections, the NDP has put forward author and broadcaster Glen Krog (Laughlin) and CBC Radio host Anne Lagace Dawson (Winnipeg's Vile Marie).

All will run for a party that believes, despite

STAR CANDIDATE: Thomas Mulcair (right) is central to Layton's agenda

anecdotal evidence, it is well-positioned to make gains in a federal election. On issues such as fast-tracking job losses, health care and the environment, the NDP now feels it has been both the equally ineffective Conservative and Liberal governments and a subsequent desire for change. And in Layton, it finds it has the most credible alternative to Stephen Harper. "When the public says, 'I don't want Harper' the next guy they think of is Jack Layton," says party strategist Brian Topp. "The last time we had that opportunity was under Ed Broadbent."

Not that the inner struggles of the third party can ever become too hard to concede. No sooner had Byren been tapped as an NDP candidate, for instance, than he raised the specter of rebranding the party—dropping the word "new" entirely and aligning the party with the U.S. Democrats and Barack Obama.

"Remember your steps in good if you like reading history, but we have to move forward," says Peter Stoffer, perhaps the most



conservative member of Layton's caucus and once himself an advocate of senior change. "If people want to be sort of like the great ones, like the Judy Deland and the Buzz Hargrove of the world, if that's the direction you want to go in, then I wish you a good trip.... All of these people that make these common have never knocked on a door in their life."

In that there is perhaps a sly nod to Layton's NDP—a party that opposes the war in Afghanistan, but has also likely pursued the lowering of ATM fees and other small, but nakedly populist ideas. This summer, for instance, while Dion has pushed economic revolution, Layton has quietly stepped in a

deeply about federal governance issues."

When Layton was leadership of the party, this seemed to be the appropriate point. As the former Toronto city councillor, the NDP had a skilled, obvious politician, someone who would not scare out of place when set against the other contenders for high office. And it is perhaps difficult to begrudge Layton if that is now considered his primary fault. If in being exactly what the NDP needed, it's somehow betrayed what the NDP was supposed to be. "We can do a lot more given the opportunity to govern," he says, apparently not holding. "And I find it interesting that we can do a lot more. But that is to be an idea beyond the realm of possibility or dreamland." ■

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Brownback: greenbacks to follow

BY MICHAEL KOHLER • Senator Sam Brownback, in an open field, red and white-checked shirt, strolled into the Calgary sun on Saturday and declared the city "incredible," even as ancient trucks passing the Fairmont Palliser drew up dust with all the fury of a fleet of fire trucks. A Roman Republic and a national co-chair for Senator John McCain's presidential bid, Brownback was in town to meet U.S. senators working in the oil and gas sector, both a fact-finding mission and a McCain fundraising stop.

As it happens, Calgary's perfect, home to an estimated 120,000 U.S. citizens, the highest concentration anywhere outside the U.S. Thanks to the energy sector, many are wealthy. It's also a hotbed of energy-related activity, at night years of President George W. Bush gave way to oil and gas uncertainty, even McCain's platform includes deep cuts to greenhouse gas emissions. "Under either McCain or Obama, such is talking about something with greenhouse gases, and that could have some impact here," allowed Brownback. But does McCain see Alberta's



SENATOR Brownback assumes Calgary that America loves its oil

oil sands made in dirty? "I believe strongly he would say—no-one," says Brownback. "You've got your lead supplier without near any concerns, doesn't fund terrorists, isn't Chavez or Al Qaeda or Iran. This is oil we need." He adds: "We have to clean up the environment over a period of time—but you can't do it in a year or two."

That's welcome talk to those who insist him here. "There's absolutely no evidence that anything that Alberta's doing in developing its oil sands is harming the environment," says Calgary lawyer Gerry Chipman. "That message is critical for someone like Sam Brownback to hear. It may be a message he's ready to hear. If Calgary is 'incredible,' Alberta's oil sands may well be clean."

'The only old one going'—but she did it



AT 86, Bernice Logan fulfilled a dream: she went to high school

BY RACHEL MENDELSON • Bernice Logan says she was "a little nervous" on her first day of high school two years ago. It had been more than 70 years since the Portage la Proux, Man., resident, now 86, had been a student. But despite being (as she puts it) "the only old one going," she fit in easily, becoming a fixture at the Portage Learning & Literacy Centre. "They used to tell me they could set their clocks by me," she says. In August she graduated with honours, becoming one of the oldest in the province (and likely the country) to earn a high-school diploma.

Going back to school was more than a whim for Logan, who grew up in rural St. Albans, where classes weren't offered beyond Grade 8. She says she "always wished to have more education," but after her own children grew up, she was busy raising her grandson, caring for her aging mother and, until recently, her husband. After he died of Alzheimer's, in September 2006, her desire to "keep the brain active," inspired her to enroll.

Logan may have been the oldest in class (the average age is about 16), but according to teacher Carole Dwyer, "she was like the glue." The students "really gravitated to her," says Dwyer, recalling how the world takes aim whenever they were silent. And the young men insisted on feeding her peeling carrots, because, says Logan, "I couldn't hurry." She took her studies seriously. Determined to master trigonometry, Logan recalls sitting through the same lesson twice.

Because a full history of graduates' ages in Manitoba isn't among the department's confidential files, it's hard to say if Logan's achievement is record-setting. No matter. She's already thinking about what she'll study next. At the moment, it's a run-up between language classes, painting and math. "I haven't really decided yet."

Let them eat MultiGrain Cheerios

BY KATE LAMOND • Brown bread or white? Starting this month, a new program in two Nunavut communities will push the "healthier" choice at point of sale. Shops in Cambridge Bay and Tasiyuak will feature labels printed in English and local languages urging items with instead of full-fat, fatty animal fat. In the cereal aisle, MultiGrain Cheerios bear signs that read "lower in sugar" and "high in fibre." It's all part of a plan to promote healthy eating in the North, where obesity is a growing concern.

The Healthy Foods North program, which was introduced as a pilot project in two Nunavut Territories communities this spring, aims to provide cooking classes and nutrition in stores. "We want people to eat a healthier version of chips, like baked chips," one participant told the *Northern News*. "It's proven to be a success, it could be implemented across both territories (a third Nunavut community, Gjoa Haven, will get a year later)." According to the University of Hawaii's Sangita Sharma, who designed the program with Joel Ginzburgh of Johns Hopkins University, one long-term goal is to steer people away from high-calorie, low-nutrient snacks to more traditional foods.

"Caribou, seal, whale and muskox [have] plenty of protein, iron and zinc," she notes. (The test has set up similar programs in the Yukon and Alaska.)



TRADITIONAL foods like Arctic char are healthier, but at risk

to meet city's demand. Yet with rising food costs and the threat of climate change—which puts traditional fare at risk—healthy eating in the North is a bigger challenge than ever, says McGill University's Harriet Kuhlmann, an expert in Aboriginal nutrition. "It's one thing to educate people, but it's something else for them to access that food," she says.

Food promoted by its higher cost than or less than the alternative. When seeking for a snack, then, baked chips may be better than fried—but in many northern communities, a piece of fresh fruit is another story.

Can you spot the virgin?

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ALL IN THE FAMILY

Just who's mentioned as a U.S. candidate's relative? Depends on how useful they are.

BY LIZIA CH. BAKER • The Democratic campaign in Denver was painstakingly photographed to project a very specific image of Barack Obama as a father in a perfectly ordinary American family. Given the whapping campaign, bestselling books and TV ad sales to go, Obama as every thing from an elite political insider to a foreign "secret Muslim" or, even, bearer of all horrors, a "celebrity," there may have been as much angst talk as the week-long radio debate then to have the 15,000 credentialed journalists bearing back images of Obama looking like an all-American dad. The message to *Madame America*: the Obama family may be brave-looking and better educated than yours, but they are as normal as you might run into them and their two cute little girls at your kid's next soccer practice.

Between a presidential candidate to pick his friends but not his relatives. Outside of his marriage to Michelle Obama—the Harvard-trained lawyer who grew up in a blue-collar household in Chicago's South Side, where every day revolved around the family dinner and homework—Obama's family portrait for the last half a century is a bit of a mess. And as the campaign heats up, voters will no doubt be hearing more about the complicated web of half-siblings shown across the world by Obama's late father and his three wives and one girlfriend, including Barack's mother, wife No. 2, Ann Dunham, who met the elder Barack while they were university students in the United States.

Recently hearing Obama's far-flung relations becoming something of an international sport. The Italian edition of *Vanity Fair* recently said it had unearthed one of his half-brothers, George Hussein Oginga Obama, in a bar outside Nairobi, where he said he lived on less than a dollar a day and bore the scars of a street fighter. "If anyone says something about any surname, I say we are not related. I am married," the magazine quoted George as saying. Once the story had filtered into the American news cycle, baffled voters asked how a candidate like Barack Obama, who has made millions on his successful career, could allow himself to live that way.

In July, the Times of London caught up with another Obama half-brother, Mark Nilesawa, the son of Obama's late father and his third wife, an American girl named Ruth Nilesawa, who lives in Nairobi. They found him in, of all places, the southern Chinese city of Shenzhen. Nilesawa, who was educated at elite U.S. universities, later became a successful Chinese firm market themselves to American companies. Given Obama's popular position on trade, the Times barely hesitated. "Any family connection between the Democratic presidential contender and the land of Chinese imports that are blamed

by many Americans for destroying American jobs could be politically embarrassing."

The another half-sibling, Bernard Obama, who runs an auto parts business in Nairobi, made headlines in July when he was visiting his mother in England, and told the *New York Times* that he had converted to Islam 12 years ago and confirmed that his father, who was an atheist as an adult, was raised Muslim. Although he said he didn't understand all the fuss about his religion, Barack's comments were interpreted by websites that try to label Obama a Muslim.

In real, Obama has seven half-siblings,

through his father's three wives and one girlfriend, and one half-sister through his mother. That half-sister, Maya Soetoro Nge, a self-described Buddhist, was born to Obama's mother and Barack's Indonesian stepfather and is now a teacher in Hawaii married to a Chinese Canadian. (An eighth sibling died as a car crash in Kenya.) Soetoro-Nge, who was the only half-sibling to spend any part of her childhood with Obama, was the only one invited to speak at the convention. She described her brother as "a truly hard act to follow," in a short speech that gave only a tiny window into their relationship. "Barack opened my mind and spirit to a broader world," she said. "He took me to forests and museums, introduced me to people from

many different neighborhoods and backgrounds, and taught me about the importance of standing up for what you believe."

Obama did not meet most of his Kenyan relatives until he first traveled to their country in adulthood. In his memoir, *Dreams of My Father*, Obama describes a brief and "painful" meeting with George Obama, this father's youngest child. He remembers tracking down George and finding him playing as a schoolyard. "Although he would be only a few years older than I was, he took his lead and quickly went back to playing games. He went with Mark Nilesawa, which took place during his first visit to his family in Kenya

in the late 1980s before starting Harvard Law School, was also a very notable. Nilesawa told Obama that father was a "donkey" who "was dead to me even when he was alive" (Obama left after the two headscarved addresses and personal meeting, with a dishonesty that made up for a heart attack).

One brother with whom Obama has been closer is Abong. "Ray" Obama, one of four children of father's first wife, Kerstin Barnett. Ray, who is an adult covered in tattoos and embraced his African heritage, and who, Obama recalled, would pose as a model for the black stars to liberate himself from the powerful influence of European culture. "About this transformation, Obama wrote, 'The words he speaks are not fully his own... But the image of his laughter remains, and we can disagree without reason.' Obama's critics, meanwhile, call Abong a "riffraff."

If Obama's relatives—who seem for the most part to be avoiding the spotlight—ever come to evaluate him, they won't be the first. Richard Nixon had a brother named Donald who

'THEY TRIED TO CREATE PARAMETERS OF WHO COUNTS AND WHO DOESN'T COUNT, WHO IS OKAY TO TALK TO AND WHO ISN'T'

Dated chair of "Nixon's" drive-in restaurants got into a steady financial backing. (Nixon had the secret service keep tabs on him.) Lyndon Johnson had a brother named Sam Houston Johnson. "He was an alcoholic and a mean SOB who wrote a book called *My Brother Lyndon*, saying the way he was a bully, and he couldn't stand his brother," says Robert Watson, a political scientist who studies presidential families at Loyola University in New Orleans. The *Journal* (Carter's brother, Billy, was an alcoholic and a self-described "cockade"), who tried to work as a registered agent in Washington for the Lyndon government, explaining away that a "heap of government support terrorism and [LBJ] at least admitted it." George W. Bush's brother, Neil, was in a tabloid divorce due to a television headlines with revelations of prostitutes regularly showing up at his hotel door during business trips. Bill Clinton's brother, Roger, served time for distributing cocaine, an accepted money from criminals who

AP: MICHAEL BENNETT; LARRY FERGUSON

OBAMA (below) with his daughters and wife, Michelle; far right from top: Barack at 10 years old with his father, George Hussein Oginga Obama, and Maya Soetoro Nge



were seeking presidential pardons from his brother. Hillary Rodham Clinton's brother Hugh Rodham also posted eye-popping fees for helping arrange a landmark legal pardon by his brother-in-law Bill for two criminals, which he later had to give back.

"The brother who takes off and becomes president, his career is just like a rocket ship taking off," says presidential family historian Doug Wood, author of *A Leader Among Us: The Brothers and Sisters of Our Nation's Leaders*. "For the others, it can be devastating and make them feel like they're doing nothing with their life. Often the other children try to catch up—so they study, they try to make deals, they make the rules and get into trouble, because they are trying to catch up overnight."

But as Obama rose, the siblings need only go as far as the White House to get a political ride. His family is so close that it confuses one of the campaign aides his critics are using against him: that he is foreign, an American, and doesn't share basic values with ordinary Americans. Of course, direct attacks on Obama's family are unlikely to come from John McCain, whose second on family values includes the fact that after his return from Vietnam in 1971, he dumped his wife, who had been hit crippled and disfigured by an accident, for

his family was so much like mine," she said. "He was raised by grandparents who were working class folks just like my parents, and by a single mother who struggled to pay the bills, just like we did."

The showcasing of Michelle, the Obama daughters, Sasha and Malia, Michelle's buxom half-sister-in-law, and Obama's half-sister from Hawaii, were an attempt to define who his family is. "They were trying to create



JOHN MCCAIN'S message at home includes Kathleen Kennedy (top right), who says Cindy turned her into a "non-person."



personas of who we are and doesn't count which members of the family is really new, who is and just goes to, of which story to tell and then to who, as defined by the Obama campaign, is relevant and who is not," says Wood, who has worked on several presidential campaigns and in the *White House* of George Bush Sr.

But given Obama's many siblings and the many questions asked about his family, Wood argues it's one life, too late, and that the candidates would be better off focusing on the issues. "It's become more the attack against McCain than to define who he is and where

he comes from—because that just puts the focus on the unanswered questions about who he is and where he comes from," Wood says. "The focus should be not on how who we are, but on how's what we can do for you." Wood adds that "it will be unusual in American history to elect a president and not know every little thing about him. But it could happen."

And Obama is not the only one with sibling issues. His running mate, Delaware Senator Joe Biden, has a brother, James, and son, Hunter, named in two lawsuits alleging fraud in a hedge fund deal gone sour. (They say they were the ones defrauded.) The Big Brothers, meanwhile, have a little sibling drama of their own. On the campaign trail, Cindy McCain has been describing herself as an "only child." This apparently came across to one of her two half sisters, Kathleen Kennedy Portillo, who told the *Washington Post* last week that being left out of the family narrative is "terribly painful." On National Public Radio she said it made her feel like a "non-person." She is also apparently upset that when the women's father, Jim Hensley, died in 2006, he left Cindy the bulk of the family beer fortune—estimated at US\$400 million. Portillo got a pittance US\$10,000. Portillo said she was in "shock and disbelief" because her father had always been financially generous with her while he was alive. According to the *Post*, her son, Nicholas, asked for a copy of the will and said it had been amended so many times that, he claimed, it was hard to tell when the original intent or language may have been. It also revealed that Cindy McCain had a second half-sister, Doree Bard, born to her mother before she married Hensley.

In a statement, the McCain campaign told the *Post* that "Mrs. McCain was named as the only child of Jim and Margaret Hensley, and there was no familiar relationship with any other sibling." Obama, of course, could say the same about his childhood, as which his father, too, along with other offspring, barely figured. But whether he'll be allowed to as election day, Nov. 4, approaches, is another matter. Can Michelle and the girls...



ITALY: THE HOTTEST MUMS HAVE INNER BEAUTY

A priest who had planned a beauty pageant for nuns has called it off, claiming that he had been misled. "I was not up to the task of putting on the runway," says Father Antonio Rampi, straying from Church criticism. He says he wanted to call attention to the inner beauty of nuns in a bid to stop falling membership in Italy's convents. "This was a sign that nuns can't be beautiful," he adds, "but I was thinking about something more complete."



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SCOTLAND THE FREE

Will a referendum in 2010 break up the United Kingdom?

BY MICHAEL PETROU

The Mallory kiltbairn near Inverlochy is a unlikely place for the making of a Scottish nationalist, but it was here that 17-year-old Kenneth Gibson came in 1979, after leaving his home in the suburbs of Glasgow looking for adventure. He spent three months on the kiltbairn, picking fruit and looking after chickens. It was an idyllic time, but it also made a deep impression on him. "I met all these kids from all these towns who came to Inverlochy, and they had this strong sense of identity that survived persecution for 2,000 years," Gibson told *Maclean's*. "I remember thinking that if we were Jews, I would have stayed." He left, Gibson returned to Scotland, and later joined the Scottish National Party, which is Scotland's independence party from the United Kingdom. "I thought that if a country once quartered the size of Scotland can make a go of it, surrounded by all those enemies, why can't we?"

Gibson's entry into Scottish politics coincided with a bleak period for the SNP, but the party's fortunes have changed dramatically since. Last year, elections for the dissolved Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh gave it a third and dissolved Scottish Labour Party against an invigorated SNP that had worked hard to portray itself as a legitimate government in waiting. The contest was ultimately decided by 41 votes in the riding of Cunninghame North, where Kenneth Gibson narrowly defeated his Labour opponent to give the SNP its first seat. One more seat and Labour, and victory in the election. A party that is once ridiculed is breaking up the United Kingdom is now in power in Edinburgh.

Many political and political scientists are quick to sound a note of caution. As in Quebec, not everyone in Scotland will vote for

a nationalist party would necessarily vote yes in a referendum on independence. Depending on how the question is asked, about a quarter of Scots say this is what they want. Nevertheless, the SNP's success was unexpected, and Scottish independence, an idea that once existed on the fringes of Scottish politics, is now mainstream.

"Last year was a massive breakthrough," Douglas Fraser, the Scottish political editor at the *Herald*, told *Maclean's*. "We shouldn't underestimate the impact it had on the movement. And we should stress that it is not a party. It is a movement." Fraser spoke with *Maclean's* in mid-July. A few days after the interview, a by-election was held in the supposedly safe riding of Glasgow East, where Labour had easily achieved victory in 2005 with more than three times the votes received by the SNP. This time, the SNP won. "We're an unstoppable force," a senior British diplomat told *Maclean's*, speaking of Scottish independence. "The diplomat, who is over 60 years of age, added he thinks it will happen in his lifetime."

The SNP's secret success owes much to the party's current leader, Alex Salmond, an economist by training who was elected head of the party (for the second time—he was also leader from 1999 to 2011) in 2004. Following the SNP's two prior showings in U.K. and Scottish elections, Salmond aggressively targeted the Scottish business community in what *Herald's* Maclean called, the Scottish political editor of the *Gazette*, described to *Maclean's* as "charm and muscle campaign."

He was helped by rising prices for oil and gas. The North Sea, off the coast of Scotland, contains large reserves of oil, and the SNP makes the most of this resource by claiming that London is stealing it. It's a subtle but a subtle, narrated by senior Scots. Conversely, a high-profile supporter of Scottish independence, in which Salmond accuses England of



IT'S 'UNSTOPPABLE,' SAYS ONE BRITISH DIPLOMAT

"the greatest piece of international legerdemain since the Spanish stole the gold gold." Salmond also makes a lot of hyperbole, claiming that small nations can thrive within the European Union, and remonstrating Scotland's poverty against the relative wealth of nearby northern European states such as Ireland, Iceland, and Norway. Maclean's, who has raised Salmond's drive that path to business leaders, describes it as persuasive. "It broke during the 2007 election, when a lot of business leaders came out. This was important. They showed that they were more than a kilt and board movement."

The SNP's strategy, now that it is in power for the first time, is to provide Scotland with effective government before holding a referendum on independence in 2010. "They hope that by governing a devoted Scotland well,



ON THE MARCH: SNP leader, Alex Salmond (left), has made the party one to be reckoned with

and landlocking. "The Labour Party is like a punch drunk boxer that thinks it can do an international," says David McCrone, a political sociologist at the University of Edinburgh. "They haven't come to terms with the last election. They think that being by only one seat means they haven't really lost."

Mark Lazarowicz, a Scottish Labour Party MP from Edinburgh, agrees that Scottish nationalist politicians

they will gain support for an independent Scotland," Nicola Maitland, a senior lecturer at politics at the University of Edinburgh, and So far, according to Maclean's, the party has succeeded. Its opponents in the Scottish Labour Party, unused to being in opposition,

cannot be complacent and must "make a case" for Scotland remaining in the U.K., but he sees little substance in national arguments. "We're in it to be beaten by changing it." The current situation works for both. This is not like some recent European

country where a minority is oppressed. We have a Scottish prime minister," he says, referring to Gordon Brown.

The SNP counters that its desire for independence is not based on opposition to the United Kingdom or an imagined need to free Scotland from England's domination. "I don't call about anybody oppressing anybody," Salmond has said. Not all Scottish nationalists agree. One man interviewed by *Maclean's* in an interview pub referred to the English as colonizers, among other unprintable descriptions, and claimed they had banned the playing of bagpipes on the streets of Edinburgh. (If only.)

There is undoubtedly a certain amount of nationalist nostalgia attached to the independent movement. "They're stuck in the film *Braveheart*," says Ellen Mackay, a triathlete lawyer in Edinburgh. "They can't really evaluate what our services would be like, what it would be like for our children. They just cling to this national identity that depends on opposition to the English."

But most nationalist Scots interviewed by *Maclean's* gave dispassionate reasons for their stance on Scottish independence. Stephen McTigart, 45, a civil servant, is typical. He voted Labour his entire life until 2005, when he supported the SNP. "I'm not a nationalist," he maintains. "I have no problem with English people as well. But it's exciting. If there was a vote on independence, I'm sure which way I'd vote. But I'm not of a Scottish independence used to be seen as a bogymen. It's shifting."

What do English think about the prospect of Scotland leaving the union? Some see it as the idea. "Take all the English votes away from that and see how they survive," one Englishman visiting Edinburgh for the weekend said. Others don't understand why Scotland would ever consider separating, given the political power wielded by Scots in the current Labour government. And some worry that an independent Scotland would drive thousands of families who have members in both England and Scotland—some of them in Edinburgh political circles, it comes out of hand. "The idea that if Scotland was independent you couldn't go visit your mate in northern England is crazy," he says. "It's a stupid one, bizarre argument. We're in the European Union. You can't stop people crossing borders."

Scottish nationalists may finally enjoy some unexpected support from English conservatives, who reason that their party would enjoy greater electoral success in Scotland, where the Tories are virtually shut out by voters in favor of Labour and the Scottish Nationalist Party, left the United Kingdom

Wary frustration toward Scottish voting habits occasionally boils to the surface. As a hard-driving dancer in Birmingham, England, Gareth Campbell, a Conservative city councillor, used a megaphone to implore voters to donate generously to the party's election campaign. "Let's send Gordon Brown back to Scotland, where he belongs!" he shouted to applause.

Despite McCrone's assurances that voters of an independent Scotland would still be able to easily visit their families in England, no one is quite certain exactly how the mechanics of governing Scotland from the rest of the United Kingdom would work. Daily Westminster, the U.K.'s parliament, has the power to call a self-resolution with binding conclusions, meaning that a referendum initiated by Edinburgh would be none of a constitutional-governance whose results London would be unable to ignore.

Bigger problems would occur after a Westminster national referendum first won by Scottish nationalists, when Scotland and the U.K. would begin the process of disentangling 300 years of shared institutions. "It would not be seamless, and it would not be quick," Hannah Macdonnell, the Scottish political editor at the Scotsman, says, adding that Scotland's entry into the European Union is not a rare thing.

One major hurdle would be how to divide the U.K.'s armed forces. Kenneth Gibson, the SNP politician, says it is essential that Scotland have its own army. But, says Peter, the Scottish political editor at the Herald, even if Scotland were to keep such now loyal on its territory, it would be left with too many infantry, not enough surface ships, and nuclear weapons the SNP says it doesn't want.

Differences like these are what make the idea of some sort of quasi-independence, involving more power for the devolved Scottish parliament without fully severing ties to London, a attraction to many Scots. "It is probably true that the people in Scotland have a voracious appetite for substantial democratic devolution," John Curran, an election expert at the University of Strathclyde, told Macdonnell.

But gradually developing more real power to Edinburgh may eventually lead to independence as well—by means of a slow unsmothering rather than a sudden rupture. "I think it will just go over a series of incremental stages," Hannah Macdonnell says. "The Scottish Parliament in 10 years will look very different than it does now. I think it will just come to a natural conclusion when the last things to be handed over don't seem so big."

A gladiator theme park for Rome



Will a G-rated homage to Rome's bloody history draw tourists?

BY PATRICIA TREBLE • Rome has a disreputable way of treating visitors, including the Pantheon and the Forum, but apparently those marches aren't enough for the city's politicians. Two weeks ago, the new center-right deputy mayor announced that Rome would build a 150-hectare theme park based on the bloody history of ancient Rome to attract even more visitors to the Eternal City. "Our model is EuroDisney in Paris," explained Marino Carroli, one proposed attraction is a Prison of the Colosseum side, complete with gladiators fighting each other as well as animals under the watchful eye of an emperor.

The 15-hectare park, designed to highlight the power and breadth of the Roman Empire, will be based on life in republican Rome. A feasibility study should be completed by the end of summer and Carroli expects construction to take three to four years.

The idea comes as a little surprise to some Roman statesmen as a close Roman anecdote the percent fewer visitors, in part because of the slowing world economy and a strong euro, and as a result, thousands of service workers have been laid off. Still, while the hoteliers' association has backed the theme park, others aren't as certain about the concept. Claudio Mancini, who heads the tourism office for the entire region, believes the artificiality of an American-style plastic and fiberglass theme park wouldn't jibe with Rome's character and rich archaeological history.

Then there is the issue of making Rome's violent and often barbaric history with Carroli's dream for a "family friendly" experience. Then after visiting the fight to the death gladiatorial theater, to say nothing of the subway gang that ended John Curran's life, the park is still going to be sucking a lot of lake blood.

Was it by death squad in a garden?

BY PATRICIA TREBLE • Just about the only fact about Syria's Gen. Mohammed Hafez's death that everyone agrees on is that it occurred near the Syrian seaside resort of Tartus at the beginning of August. The two leading assassination theories, which wouldn't be out of place in a James Bond film, have the crime scene of President Hafez in Assad killed by a death squad in his garden or by an off-shore sniper while he was at the beach—at the time, his boss was in Iran attempting to improve relations between the two enmity allies, which have been strained over Syria's inchoate peace negotiations with Israel.

Since then, speculation over what lay behind his murder has mounted to a fever pitch. "This is earth shattering. Since when does a head of state die in a garden?" said one government source in Syria.



PRESIDENT Assad's side's mystery death still puzzles

In the Reuters news agency, "Syria was prey to many things." His reputation as a key figure in the Syrian regime was confirmed by the presence at his August funeral of Assad's brother Maher, who carried the presidential guard. Some reports say the 59-year-old was killed for drinking up the society

money after the February assassination of Hezbollah commander Imad Mughniyeh in Damascus, and top disgraced intelligence chief Asaf Shawkat was behind the death. Others point the finger at Israel, apparently Hafez had been supplying anti-Israel missiles to Hezbollah, which fought Israel to a draw two years ago in Lebanon. That technology would have threatened the Jewish nation's dominance of the skies.

This is not the first mysterious death in Syria. In 2005, Ghazi Khatun, the government's former key minister, apparently killed himself in his office as an unexplained assassination into the death of former Lebanese justice minister Rafik Hariri increasingly pointed toward Syrian involvement. The next year, Khatun's brother, Ali, was found dead. According to the London-based newspaper *Al-Jazeera*, the powerful Khatun family believed their deaths weren't self-inflicted and blamed more often than Hafez's.



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WILL POTASH MANIA BITE THE DUST?

Should a fertilizer company be Canada's stock market darling?

BY ANJON KERRY • For a simple fertilizer company, Potash Corp. has found itself the subject of some lofty comparisons over the last year. "The Google of fertilizers" was how one financial blogger described it. Financial analysts dubbed Saskatchewan the "Saudi Arabia of potash" for its abundant reserves of the coveted, pinkish mineral, an essential ingredient in chemical fertilizers. And in the sun on Bay Street suddenly discovered their inner Old Medivalist, potash was hailed as the "new oil" and "pink gold." But lately, another sealings has been emerging the rounds, and it's not nearly as flattering: "A technical and quantitative analysis shows the trend for Potash Corp. as being very similar to that of Noranda," wrote Mark Denier, an analyst at Cowi Securities in a recent column. Noranda, he continued, "is anybody really wanted to be reminded—was the 'former stock dar-

ling during the tech boom...that ended in the tech wreck."

There's no question the past few years have been a wild ride for Potash Corp. and its investors, not to mention everyone else saddled with a rising grocery bill. Potash has quickly become one of the hottest commodities traded from the world's agricultural land can't produce enough crops to feed a growing, hungry planet. And as the world's largest producer, investors couldn't get enough of Potash Corp. shares. By the time the stock hit \$344 in June, it had soared a whopping 4,500 percent in just four years. What's more, its market value of \$63 billion easily made it the largest company in the country—ahead of titan like the Royal Bank, Manulife Financial, and Research in Motion.

But lately, storm clouds have begun to gather. In recent weeks, Potash Corp., along with other fertilizer and agriculture companies, shed a quarter of their value before rebounding late last week. For some, the dramatic rise of the company's shares and explosion for all things agricultural is reminis-

cent of the mania that surrounded Internet stocks during the late 1990s, when tech euphoria briefly made Noranda Canada's largest company by far. Last week, Citigroup's chief equity strategist, Tobias Levkovich, warned a "dot com" bubble has formed. "Excess excitement in the farming sector seems reminiscent of days past," Levkovich wrote in a note. "The rally of 'everyone has to eat,' while exciting, can also lead to some more head overhunting and/or more rational, fast-driven constructs." To put it bluntly, investors who straggled into agricultural stocks seem to have left their brains behind.

While potash remains a key ingredient in the mix, the stock is seriously underpriced given the food crisis, the fact agriculture, the world's every agricultural commodity, has a long history of booms and busts. The question now is whether Potash Corp. will mirror some of the greatest bull runs in Canadian history, or whether on the way to so many stock market darlings before?

What's made the Potash Corp. story so compelling is its apparent simplicity. Not only is the world's population growing, so too is its appetite. Hundreds of millions of people have been lifted out of poverty in countries like China, India and South America. Thanks to the rise faster workers may have developed a taste for meat—as 3,000 annual report, the company said China's meat consumption "more than tripled" over the past 20 years. By the 2007 annual report, the firm



POTASH CORP. CEO Bill Doyle (right) was predicted a surge in prices, and now he is sitting on stock options worth hundreds of millions

being used was "almost congealed." (The company didn't make anyone available to comment for this story.) Whatever the multiple, it takes seven grams of grain to produce one gram of meat. At the same time, governments have pushed for the use of biofuels to lessen the world's reliance on oil. Many analysts believe rising demand for biofuels has put enormous added pressure on food staples. Compensating for that, the amount of arable land is dwindling, due to urban sprawl. Add it all up, potash prices are up, and the only way to acquire more crops from less farmland is to use fertilizers, which boosts yields and helps plants grow faster.

No one has predicted the speed of fertilizer with such fervor as Potash Corp.'s CEO Bill Doyle. "The bottom line is that the world needs more potash," he told analysts in May. "and this likely to continue for the foreseeable future." When Doyle took the helm in 1999, Potash Corp. had been stuck in neutral for years, at around \$100 per ton. Doyle insisted that would soon change, and that Potash Corp. would be perfectly positioned for the rebound. While the company produces three key types of fertilizers—nitrogen, phosphate and potash—the latter is the most sought after. Though 11 countries produce potash, Potash Corp.'s Saskatchewan mines account for 22 per cent of the global market, and the province contains 59 per cent of the world's reserves. When Doyle's prophecy became reality and demand for

fertilizer started to increase, Capstone, the consortium that markets Canadian potash internationally, was able to escalate prices to customers. In April, China agreed to Capstone's demands that it pay \$400 more per ton than the year before. Last month the price hit \$1,000 per ton. The result has been a windfall for Potash Corp., as well as for Doyle. In its most recent quarter, the com-

SOME CALL POTASH CORP. THE 'GOOGLE OF FERTILIZER.' TO OTHERS, THE STOCK IS A HUGE BUBBLE, READY TO EXPLODE.

pany earned \$995 million, up threefold from the year before, on sales of \$2.6 billion. Meanwhile, according to company filings, Doyle has stock and options with a paper value of \$620 million. Now Potash Corp. workers are making for a bigger piece of the good times—in August, the company paid by a bonus strike at three of its mines, which shows firings of letting up.

With Potash Corp. owning up the markets, several companies have rushed to get in on the action. For instance, in April, Denver-based Tramp Potash went public in one of the strongest IPOs in the U.S. this year. Meanwhile, Vancouver-based Western Potash, which was founded in May, quickly won its own surge

in price, with its shares jumping 50 per cent in less than a month. Even though Western's only assets are some exploration rights in Saskatchewan and the company has yet to generate a penny in sales. And when a third company called Turner Exploration bought two exploration permits and switched its name to Potash North in May, its stock jumped 30 fold. If the key two successful IPO during the tech boom was to have dot com in your name, these days the magic word is potash.

Yet, despite the euphoria surrounding the sector, not everyone is sold. Critics take issue with some of the assumptions that fuelled the potash boom. For one thing, they say, it's wrong to compare the mineral to crude oil, as some analysts have done. The story may as well as of potash was done by the belief that the world's supply of oil had peaked. Potash seldom used to increase. But in 1964, an economist at World Bank pointed out in an April report, there were then 300 years worth of potash buried underground waiting to be dug up. The reason the supply has been so restricted in recent decades is because the mineral was such a dud that companies saw no reason to boost their production. Wall also noted that the market capitalization of the three largest North American potash producers was "bigger than the value of all of the potash ever sold in the history of the world."

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POTASH CORP.'s sudden good fortune has been a mixed blessing. Non-employees are vying for a bigger share of the windfall at Wall Street's sudden interest in the business has attracted huge new players into the industry, raising the spectre of tough competition.

Russians population growth doesn't necessarily guarantee higher fertilizer prices either. Potash Corp. frequently cites UN projections that the world's population will grow at a phenomenal rate in the future, from 6.7 billion people last year to 9.2 billion in 2050. That's a lot of mouths to feed. Yet the world's population is 2.7 times greater than it was in 1950, and during that period, the price of potash, adjusted for inflation, actually fell by half, according to historical data from the U.S. Geological Survey. Part of the reason for this is that new agricultural technologies have enabled farmers to squeeze more out of their fields. At the same time, agricultural commodities as a whole have been lagging, despite the focus on about soaring food prices. Over the last two years the price of corn has tripled. But after focusing for millions, some \$100 million, on a third of what it did in the mid 1970s, according to *Wall Street Journal*. "Some folks in my profession worry with some justification that the outlook for commodities is bad, and that it always has been," says Al Musall, a senior research associate at the George Mason University, an agribusiness think tank in Fairfax, Va.

So is the outlook for agribusiness bright or gloomy? It's that very disagreement that has contributed to the massive boom/bust cycle underlying all commodity businesses, and potash is no exception. In America's early days it was one of the country's most important exports. (The very first potash ever mined in the U.S. was in an area now known as the "Potash Triangle" in the state of Ohio.) But it wasn't until the early 20th century that the first real pot-

ash bubble formed. At the time, most of the world's supply came from Europe, and the lead up to the First World War, supplies were cut off. This sent prices soaring. In today's dollars, a ton of potash peaked as much as \$100,000, up from \$1,000 a decade earlier. With prices so high, it wasn't long before speculators flooded into the market and new discoveries began to make the news. In September 1916, the New York Times trumpeted as "movement" potash find in Utah. But barely one month later, the jig was up. "Utah's potash bubble, once which a number of persons expected to make fortune, appears to be jinxed," the paper reported. As it turned out, samples taken from the site were found "somewhat more varied than."

Potash prices have never come close to reaching those high levels. But in the 1950s Saskatchewan seemed to be on the cusp of a potash boom. Huge deposits were made a decade earlier, and the NDP government of the day offered hefty subsidies to lure the industry. At least 30 companies piled in, and the resulting glut caused prices to crater. The province's small corner of the industry, and it wasn't until 1959 that Potash Corp. was finally spun off as a public company.

Today potash production is tightly controlled by a small group of players, giving the likes of potash giant Potash Corp. has plans to expand its billion to boost its operating capacity by 71 million tonnes by 2015, according to a report by BDC Capital Markets analyst Dan Lee. Even so, he suggests,

global potash supplies will remain tight.

But for how long? Well-known mining giant BHP Billiton is taking over the potash assets. Last month, Rio Tinto said it planned to develop potash mines in Canada and Argentina starting in 2012 and vowed to grab 20 percent of the global market. Then last week, BHP Billiton, which recently acquired Calgary-based Alcan Potash, said it may place "billions upon billions of dollars" into potash mining. The prospect of intense competition could partly explain why first-tier company shares declined in recent weeks. There are also concerns potash prices could fall. When the "sticker shock" fertilizer firms are next year, says Mark Glick, an analyst at Salomon Brothers, they may cut back on their use of fertilizer. Other analysts have also suggested worse weather and a good growing season in North America this year could reduce the need for chemical fertilizers.

But above all, there's a falling away from the potash market simply go too hot, too fast. "The valuation was tremendous," says Glick, who maintains a "hold" recommendation on the stock. "These stocks were trad-

ing above the replacement costs for their assets and that's always a red flag."

Potash Corp.'s shareholders appear to be having none of it. Last month, as the stock tumbled, Lee in BDC raised his target price for the company to \$175 a share, nearly double what it was last week. To put that in perspective, if the company's shares reach that price, Potash Corp. would be more valuable than Royal Bank and TD Bank combined.

With the debate over the potash market raging on, perhaps it's best to consider the words of Louis Brandeis, the Chicago-based former president of International Minerals and Chemical Corp. According to a newspaper report, when told a luncheon in Belgium that the growing world population, the heavy reliance on soil minerals and advanced technologies farming all pointed toward an ever-increasing demand for potash. "He put me to sleep in 1977. With the subsequent collapse of Saskatchewan's potash market, it took nearly half a century for potash prices to get much above where they were back then. Potash Corp. investors are hoping that this time things will be different. ■



DELIVERY MEN ON A LUXURY YACHT LET HER RIP

Two delivery men set out to ferry a \$400,000 power boat from Southampton, England, to Ireland last when they decided to stop for fuel in Falmouth they managed to rig a hole in the hull of the 12-m vessel on some rocks and send it to the bottom of the sea. The men escaped unhurt, but as a result gained notoriety. "They have got some sort of explaining to do," the sailor told on a boat and were said to look very worried.

Abandon all hope? Well, not so fast.



STEVE MALACH

In case you hadn't heard, everything is falling apart. Well, maybe not everything. Just the Western world's economy and everything that entails. Which is pretty much everything.

This is the new era of financial doomism—a school of thought that can be boiled down to roughly this: the good times are over, abandon all hope. It's a historic cliché. The 1930s economic boom gave us Donald Trump. The rise of the personal computer gave us Steve Jobs and Bill Gates. The late '80s real estate boom gave Donald Trump again. And the new era of doomism has yielded gloomy oracles like Nostradamus.

Mr. Nostradamus is an economist who has been infamous for writing dire prophecies on the state of the world economy, with megapage titles like "The perfect storm of global markets" and "The decline of the American empire." It's best to remove all sharp objects from the room before setting down to read Nostradamus' work. He correctly predicted that the merger in corporate mergers in the U.S. would trigger a financial crisis, and that there'd be a world war, now his list only declined. But Nostradamus is merely the most prominent of an entire school of apocalyptic financial forecasters. The group includes billionaire investor Jim Rogers, who has spent much of this year warning that we're in for "one of the worst recessions since the Second World War," and economist Stephen Roach, who was known as Dr. Doom years before Roach. This week's latest forecast comes from the IMF, Kenneth Rogoff, former the chorus, saying that "the worst is yet to come" and predicting that at least one more crisis will fall before the curtain is over.

The declineists certainly have plenty of ammunition on their side. The collapse of the U.S. housing market has already cut banks around the world half a trillion dollars, new home construction is at its lowest level in 10 years, manufacturing activity in the U.S. northeast has been shrinking for nine straight months, and a recent poll by Bloomberg News and the Los Angeles Times found three-quarters of Americans believe the country is "on the wrong track."

For those being celebratory, the Beijing Olympics have provided a vivid contrast to find this popular wave of pessimism. Here

in China, the emerging economic colossus with its gleaming skyscrapers and exploding mega-cities, at the center of the world's attention. Meanwhile in America, where more than one in 10 homeowners are over on their mortgages than their house is worth, the economy continues to falter.

All this taps into a deep well of fear in the West. When, after the investment strategy with Procter Capital management and another prominent declineist, wrote in the Financial Times last week that the end of



The doom-sayers have laid huge bets on a disaster

American global leadership is over, leading not only to its economic troubles but also public decline, low energy rates, even the drop in terrorism among schoolchildren.

But that is the point where declineists can start to get out of hand. Saying it's the end of the world as we know it is very different from saying it's the end of the world. It's one thing to forecast economic turmoil, or the arrival of another economic crisis, or even the end of the world as we know it. It's quite another to suggest that a disaster for the Western world. There are a few caveats to bear in mind next time you hear from the harbingers of doom.

For one thing, economic decline is a recurrent theme in our history. During the crisis of the 1930s, the declineist scenario about collapsing, and they're doing the same now. When the 1980s saw a declining economy coincided with the rise of Japan as an industrial power, do declineists warned that all American factory workers would soon be reporting to robot, robotic houses in Tokyo. And when the dot-com bubble burst, there were plenty of predictions that the world's capital and jobs would soon American innovation for a generation. Every time, all that fear provided the basis for another era of Western innovation and prosperity.

It's also important to remember that the declineists are not disinterested observers. They have all, in one way or another, placed enormous bets in the financial markets on the decline of America as an economic engine. Many of the most ardent voices are fund managers, heavily invested in Asia, and in many cases they have sold American stocks (especially bank stocks) short. Jim Rogers, one of the most famous, has sold his entire last thing I could do for my children was make them live in a Chinese house. Last year he moved his whole family to Singapore from New York in anticipation of a new economic world order. Others, like Nostradamus, are simply those who've signed that entire reputation on a massive bet against America. The worse things get, the better the doomers look.

That's not to say these declineists are necessarily wrong, not that they're dishonest. But their ideas should be taken with a grain of salt. For exactly the same reasons that later on business like Mary Minkler should have been warned with disapproval in the late 1990s that they have a vested financial interest in their forecasts. It's like asking somebody for a World Series prediction right after finding out that they managed their house to bet on the Yankees. They might be right, or they might be getting wealthy.

That's the trouble with forecasts. They only are forecasts interpreting the past to predict the future. As useful as past experience is, it doesn't tell you everything. For example, it can't tell you where the next great ideas are being, and how they'll flourish, or even where the next big idea is being.

So when you feel utterly depressed, convinced by the declineists, just remember the summer of 2000, when the dot-coms were dying and the stock market was collapsing, and everything seemed just about doomed. You'll find that to your dismay, the Google guys were working late in secrecy in a garage in Menlo Park, Calif., getting ready to change the world. Who would've predicted that?

STEVE MALACH is a columnist for www.foxnews.com.

Two old pals, hangin' out in Alberta

BY MICHAEL SÖLLEN • In the summer of 1978, Mark Dean visited for Raup and his closest friend, Roy Joseph Titchell. The trip, which included stops in Germany and Italy, and which Dean later documented in his autobiography, *A Damp Afternoon*, was less about tourism than a chance for Dean and Titchell to get into some mischief. "While I was looking down upon the cliffs," Dean wrote, "the doorman opened an adventure case suddenly upon me, and I said to my comrades, 'I am going to Händelburg as a rich. Will you venture with me?'" His trip to Händelburg went so well.

Which raises the question: Was it supposed to be those 400-odd words that Dean and Titchell wrote upon their trip to Händelburg, this, this week? The trip started over at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the doorman's entrance. "This is the first we've heard about," media reports jumped on the visit as a sign that Buffett and Gates would



MILLIONAIRES Buffett and Gates caused a stir in the oil sands

visit to the embattled Canadian energy stocks, likely a little long, perched up with the news, and business would appear to grow that over. Overcome the Warrens, it could come to playmaking "dirty" Canada. However, Gates and Buffett, transferring billions of the past investing from Oil Sands Land into an oil sands program.

But was it all just a cover by two old pals, guys who play cards together and, famously, spend money on good words? Gates, a well-known, and Buffett, an investment expert, rarely do business together. Maybe it really was those big-league trucks that caused one business—on one business—on one business. "I am, you can find it," Dean told Titchell, going to Fort McMurray on a truck. Will you venture with me?

Canadian Club: old-school cool



DON DRAPER, in the show 'Mad Men,' likes his CC straight up

BY COLIN CAMPBELL • In the first episode of *Mad Men*, the television show about a Madison Avenue advertising firm in the early 1960s, a new secretary is told to stick up on her for her boss, the central character Don Draper. "You're Canadian, right?" the response. What follows is a scene of sexual tension, a phenomenon popular TV in which Draper and the other men in the show and Canadian boys like it more, well, then.

That kind of gender placement is a dramatic case for real-world advertising. And as *Mad Men* has almost single-handedly caused pansex American style cool again, it's taking one step further: the Canadian Club. Along for the ride. Thanks to the show, Canadian Club has been able to enhance what is normally a very bad thing—being added with the image of "your father's drink." This year, it rolled out an advertising campaign in Canada and the U.S. called "Down Right You Don't Drink It." One of the ads featured Don Draper—seen in a real vintage photo from the 1960s—sitting with a glass of red and a woman on his lap. The headline reads, "You Mustn't Want 'You Don't Drink It.'" Another includes the line, "Your Dad Never Got It Polite."

The campaign wasn't trying to overly state *Mad Men*, says Gerry Hineswood, group marketing manager at Madison Canada, which markets and distributes Canadian Club. But that's not to do it follows a trend played by that show. *House* and *Mad Men* have both made their way into the world of "masculine cocktails." *Mad Men* hasn't been the only one to do it. Canadian Club, the 1930s character in the movie *Amsterdam*, and CCB's own campaign in the works featuring a cocktail it calls the "Burgundy." But don't expect to see a "Draper" any time soon—he took his eye out.

Cheap cars... there's just one catch

BY NOZAM MOHAMMAD • A buck can go a long way these days. Don't believe it? A new car rental company is offering it a day rent as low as their lowest. While offering extremely low prices, Toronto-based CarPit is a downright cheap, you will be comfortable driving a moving vehicle with ads for companies like Yahoo and Global Warming. The deals all over the car. Renters must pay for gas and must agree to drive a minimum of 30 miles (and they can't drive outside the Greater Toronto Area). The cars are outfitted with GPS systems in order for the company to provide tracking reports for advertisers on the movement of their brand.

For now, the company is only serving Toronto, and they plan to expand. There are plans, however, to add more cars and to expand to other cities such as Halifax, Montreal, Vancouver, Calgary and Edmonton within two years. Limited to 10, the slogan for CarPit (which also offers cars with Wi-Fi and was started on \$1 million in private equity funding) is "One Mile. One Day. One Buck." Their target market is the vehicle club target young adults, as well as companies looking to advertise to 18- to 35-year-olds. CarPit co-founder, Paul Pelton, says over 1,000 people have pre-ordered for access. "We're looking to break even this year," says Pelton, who also says that goal is to attract



RENTING this Mini Cooper in Toronto costs just \$1 a day

double registered membership in Toronto within the year. He currently has proposals with 10 other companies to advertise on their fleet. Marketing analysts say the company should make its goals. "They're cheap, they have chosen fun cars that they like to run around in, and it's a company wanting to advertise to young mind people, I would think that is a good thing," says Keith Thompson, creative director of Corporate Communications Group. "So long as they advertise their own brand to avoid confusion where their targets are getting what you, that should be easy for them."



SMART CITIES

CANADA'S SMARTTEST CITIES

Is your city holding you back or is it helping you thrive?

BY CATY GULLI

If you want to imagine Canada's smartest city—a place filled with fascinating people, cultural delights and endless learning opportunities—what would it be like?

It would probably be a smallish community, suggest the toping, an internationally recognized expert on cities and founder of *Spicer's Best Places*, which ranks municipalities for ideal living conditions. And it would be a small, unincorporated university, or maybe a government institution. You could work as a business manager, or a think tank, or a high-paying public servant, or you might start your own business catering to all the other achieving folks in town. There would be a sense of community, and on weekends you and your friends could spend hours at free museum and art galleries, where people from different parts of the world would converge in scholarly appreciation. It would be a city that's "rich in culture," *Spicer* says.

Chances are, few of us can claim to live in such an enlightened utopia. But a major study by the Canadian Council on Learning

VANCOUVER (left) has signed on as a "learning city," but this year Ontario (left) and Victoria (far right) topped the rankings.

(CCL), an Ottawa-based non-profit corporation that promotes all kinds of learning, shows that some Canadian cities came close. The CCL ranked more than 4,700 communities across the country to find out which ones have the most education opportunities, and they looked way beyond what's happening inside the classroom. They included such wide-ranging indicators as workplace training, volunteering and even ways to be a volunteer. Paul Cappon, president of the CCL, first came up with the idea of the index when he worked at the Council of Ministers of Education in Canada and wanted to find out more about lifelong learning. "We already measure schools very well using standardized testing," he says, "but we know that is only a small part of learning. We need to measure what happens outside the school too."

The CCL's annual Composite Learning Index, now in its third year, is one of the first data from 21 indicators, which in turn are grouped into five "pillars" of learning, originally developed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The "learning to know" pillar focuses on formal education, includes university attainment, high-school dropout rates, the proportion of youth who pursue post-secondary studies, and the math, science, reading and problem-solving scores of teenagers. "Learning to do," the second pillar, focuses on applied skills. It looks at the number of local vocational schools and the proportion of employees who have access to workplace training. The "learning to live together" pillar attempts to measure the social values in a community. It looks at things like the proportion of Canadians who volunteer, as well as participation in clubs, and the percentage who socialize with other cultures. The last pillar, the "learning to be" pillar, looks at cultural opportunities, and includes spending on books, museums, the arts, sports and recreation, as well as access to cultural resources.

How your city scores could have a big impact on your life. For starters, if your city ranks high, "you'll make more money," says Kevin Delaney, research director of the Market Property Institute in Toronto, who works in communities and worked on the fourth scoring Canada (national) *Wish You City* with demographer Richard Florida. "You will become a more skilled, educated and talented individual, and that's going to be self and on the money you make." Adds Dale Naby, education professor at the Memorial University in St. John's, "we've seen consistently from the OECD that if you have a higher level of



HOW SMART IS YOUR CITY?

Is your city creating an environment that will help you get ahead, or could you be left behind? This ranking shows how Canada's major cities stack up, from the best to the worst. As you can see, Ontario and Victoria offer their citizens the most opportunities, while several of Quebec's cities offer the least. Why should you care? Because according to the Canadian Council on Learning, having more opportunities for lifelong learning can mean "higher wages, better job prospects, improved health and a more fulfilling life."

CITY	GETTING STARTED	LEARNING TO DO	LEARNING TO LIVE TOGETHER	LEARNING TO BE	LEARNING TO LIVE TOGETHER	
Ottawa	88	23	4.0	7.3	6.0	7.5
Vancouver	85	44	5.7	6.8	6.0	7.2
Calgary	82	49	5.3	6.8	6.2	7.0
Edmonton	82	48	4.2	7.3	6.0	7.0
Winnipeg, Ont.	76	81	5.3	6.5	6.2	7.0
Winnipeg, Ont.	87	44	5.0	6.1	6.4	7.1
Edmonton	87	42	5.0	6.4	6.1	7.1
Edmonton	84	52	4.0	6.3	6.2	6.4
Kamloops, B.C.	84	51	5.0	6.6	6.6	6.3
St. John's	84	52	4.8	6.3	6.0	6.3
Halifax	84	50	5.8	7.0	6.1	6.3
Saskatoon	83	1.1	4.2	6.7	6.6	6.2
London, Ont.	82	2.8	3.2	6.9	6.3	6.3
Regina, Ont.	82	3.6	6.1	6.9	6.6	6.7
Quebec, Ont.	81	3.2	4.8	6.7	6.7	6.8
Peterborough, Ont.	80	2.3	4.8	6.6	6.6	6.5
Regina	80	9.8	4.1	6.8	6.8	6.5
Toronto	79	8.1	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.5
Winnipeg	79	1.3	3.7	6.8	6.8	6.6
Fredericton	78	4.8	3.8	6.7	6.7	6.4
Kamloops	78	1.8	6.4	6.8	6.3	6.8
Winnipeg	78	9.8	3.2	6.2	6.8	6.1
Abbotsford, B.C.	77	1.3	3.6	6.2	6.4	6.6
St. Catharines, Ont.	77	0.2	4.8	6.6	6.6	6.6
Charlottetown	77	5.8	2.8	6.0	6.7	6.7
Winnipeg	78	0.1	6.3	6.8	6.2	6.8
Thunder Bay, Ont.	78	1.6	4.5	6.6	6.8	6.8
Windsor, Ont.	79	1.3	6.0	6.7	6.7	6.1
Windsor, Ont.	78	2.0	5.0	6.8	6.8	6.8
Moncton, N.B.	79	1.8	3.0	6.8	6.8	6.7
St. John's, N.S.	74	5.7	3.3	6.7	6.8	6.8
Laval, Que.	72	9.1	3.0	6.3	6.8	6.8
Windsor, Ont.	72	1.3	4.8	6.2	6.8	6.7
Montreal	71	2.0	4.8	6.8	6.7	6.7
Quebec City	71	1.8	4.4	6.5	6.8	6.7
St. John's, N.S.	88	3.0	4.0	6.3	6.0	6.9
Windsor, Ont.	88	1.0	4.2	6.1	6.8	6.7
Windsor, Ont.	82	1.6	4.1	6.8	6.3	6.0

Source: The Canadian Council on Learning (CCL) Composite Learning Index 2010

CAN'T FIND YOUR HOMETOWN? Go to www.marketplaces.com/marketplaces for a complete ranking of more than 4,700 cities and communities across Canada.

PHOTOGRAPH BY TONY FROST PHOTOGRAPH BY TONY FROST

GETTY

MACLEAN'S SEP 8 '08

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education among a population you're going to be doing reasonably well economically."

"We know if you have a higher level of edu-

education in your population, you have lower levels of incarceration. We also know that there are more positive health outcomes. People who are more highly educated are less likely to smoke and more likely to be active," he explains. "Civic engagement, volunteerism, charitable giving, all those things are positively correlated with higher levels of education."

Many Canadian cities already realize the importance of learning, and you can probably think of several that strike you as "smart cities." But which city comes out on top?

meeting. "There was dipping and everyone was saying how wonderful it is that we received this honour," she says. Hughes is even giddy about sharing the podium with Obama.

"That's okay," she laughs. "They send us money, we send them condolences."

The CCL's data shows that Victorians did well for several reasons. The city's residents spend a greater proportion of their household expenditures (34 per cent) on social clubs than households in any other city in Canada. Almost half of Victoria households spend money on visiting museums.

Thanks in part to improvements to the Royal British Columbia Museum, and last year's hugely popular interactive Titanic exhibit, Victorians didn't do as well when it came to volunteering, scoring just below the Canadian average (see "Canada's most caring cities" on page 36) for the fall volunteerism rankings. But they made up for it with more participation in job-related training (39 per cent, compared to the national average of 25 per cent). And to two universities and two colleges.

THE CALGARY Philharmonic (below) and gallery owner Paul Kuhn (right) are helping to transform Calgary into a cultural mecca.



Most importantly, the city is continuously making an effort to improve. Next week, Victoria kicks off its third annual "Lift Long Learning Festival." For seven days, the downtown

small will become a hub of educational activity, and there will be open houses at libraries and recreational centers around the city, where residents can learn new skills such as basket-making or gardening. "We've been trying very hard to make this a city where we celebrate our human resources," says Hingua.

Ottawa scored well for many of the same reasons as Victoria, but it had an additional advantage. Being the nation's capital was a big help, says Lynn Scott, chair of the Ottawa



Carden District School Board. "It enlarges our opportunities for musicians," she explains, and there are local cultural groups such as Opera Line and the Canastota Arts Program. "Having lots of ensembles here also means there may be more measures of diversity," says Scott, which helps to explain why 78 per cent of Ontario's population with other cultures is a regular habit, compared to the 73 per cent national average.

Other helpful factors included O'Brien's two universities and two colleges, plus a boardman at a high school with more than a thousand

students. Post-secondary participation is the highest in the country at 57 per cent, compared to 40 per cent nationally. It also scored high in volunteer regions: more than half of Ottawians do.

When she heard about Ottawa's wife, Na'mba Kwanishi, a 24-year-old diplomat's daughter who had lived most of her life, was reported "I wouldn't have thought it," she says. "You take for granted what you have." But she acknowledges that as a "big small town," Ottawa is a good place to raise children and find steady employment. "Half the city works in the government," she says. "I already have permanency. I'd have to do something really bad to lose my job."

These classes may have more to spend on education to begin with, which may produce a more highly educated citizen, and in turn help to provide more opportunities for everyone. Cappon adds that in areas where the economy is strong and employers are experiencing a labour shortage—such as within the emerging oil sector in Saskatchewan—there is a particular incentive to offer job-related training and apprenticeships to residents.

"Where there is a booming economy, companies are obliged to offer better learning opportunities because they need the skills," he says. "I think that accounts for some interesting effects."

The danger is that Canada could split into groups of "have" and "have-not" ones, with the wealthier ones suc-

But the economic gains go to the better-off and richer, while poorer, rural communities are left in the shadow. But Crippon says it's not so simple. For instance,

Toronto and Montreal didn't do particularly well in the voting, with Saskatoon beating both soundly. Neither metro area scored high.

when it came to things like participation in sports or the availability of workplace training. Contrary to their Wild West image, Californians are much more likely to spend their money attending museums and live arts performances if residents of either city (see "Canada's most cultured cities" to the

right). And when it comes to valorizing smaller communities such as Guilford, Ore., topped the charts, while Montpelier came in dead

It turns out that rural and smaller communities actually have some advantages over cities. They have a social cohesion

sometimes don't have," Ca-
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**CANADA'S MOST
CULTURED CITIES**

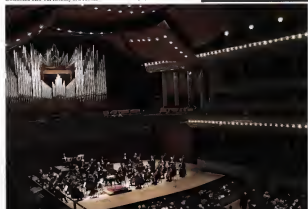
Better known for its massive stampede than its theatres and museums, Calgary often finds its culture disparaged by other Canadians. Yet Calginites, it turns out, are the most cultured people in the country. When you combine the percentage of households who spend money to attend museums with those who spend to attend the live performing arts, Calgary comes out on top, while Toronto and Montreal both finish way down the list.

Attending museums and performing arts events is important, says the Canadian Council on Learning, because "recent research suggests that engagement with cultural activities bolsters self-confidence, boosts self-esteem, and enhances creativity and communicative skills."

City	PER CENT HUNG FOR SOLDIERS	PER CENT HUNG FOR THE ARMY	GOOD BLOOD TOTAL
Category	53.5	33.3	1
Victoria	49.0	33.0	2
Salisbury, Ont.	49.9	30.7	3
Ottawa	49.9	30.7	4
Belle, Ont.	43.7		5
Richmond, Ont.	43.7	48.9	6
Wellington, Ont.	43.7	48.9	7
St. John's	34.7	53.9	8
Edmonton	42.0	42.0	9
Regina	36.3	59.0	10
Charlottetown	37.1	45.6	11
Windsor	35.5	48.0	12
Calgary	36.2	48.0	13
Halifax	41.2	40.9	14
London, Ont.	30.3	48.6	15
Moncton	35.2	44.3	16
Quebec, Que.	36.0	46.6	17
Halifax, N.S.	35.5	46.6	18
Kingston, Ont.	36.3	41.3	19
Peterborough, Ont.	36.3	41.3	20
Burlington, Ont.	36.5	41.3	21
Thunder Bay, Ont.	36.2	40.9	22
Timmins	36.5	40.9	23
Calcutta, B.C.	36.7	40.8	24
Alberton, E.C.	36.9	42.3	25
Two-Heads, Que.	36.8	41.1	26
Levitt, Que.	36.3	43.0	27
St. Catharines, Ont.	36.5	41.3	28
St. John, N.B.	29.8	44.3	29
Quebec City	30.4	49.3	30
Windsor, Ont.	30.4	36.7	31
St. John's	30.4	36.7	32
St. Catharines, Ont.	30.4	36.7	33
Sarnia, Ont.	29.6	40.7	34
Fredericton	29.0	32.0	35
St. John's, Que.	28.2	28.6	37

Source: The Canadian Centre for Gaming (CCG) National Game Survey of House-
hold Spending, 2006. Statistics Canada note that percentages over- or under-
state actual play as measured attendance or money at the two gaming
only—alcohol-free events is not included.

larger centres, and bigger cities, Spain says. Available, Alia, Kina, a volunteer of groups that facilitates don't



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Just an hour's drive west of Toronto, Guelph, Ont., is best-known for its university and rich agricultural system. Turns out it has another claim to fame—it's the volunteer capital of Canada. In fact, Ontario is home to three of the country's Top Five caring communities: Quebecers, however, are left out, as well as those with their time. Guelph is the only Quebec community that appears in the Top 10, and of the five least caring cities, four are in that province.

Volunteer rates were important in determining the overall learning scores for major cities because, according to the Canadian Council on Learning, volunteering "helps identify community services," as well as providing "learning opportunities for the volunteers themselves."

[illegible]

SOURCE: The Canadian Employment-Learning 2009 survey, collected for the Canada Survey of Training, Education and Post-Secondary, 2009, from Statistics Canada. Interviews were conducted between July and September 2009. The survey is a cross-sectional survey of the Canadian labour force, aged 15 and over, in the private sector. The survey is a cross-sectional survey of the Canadian labour force, aged 15 and over, in the private sector. The survey is a cross-sectional survey of the Canadian labour force, aged 15 and over, in the private sector.

NOBOWING residents are more likely to volunteer than those of Moncton, Halifax or St. John's.

Self, one of the troubling trends revealed in the index is that many of the high scores have been getting better each year, while some of the poorer-scoring cities have been getting worse. "You'll see that some of these are stagnating," acknowledges Capposa. "Wind ice, Ont., for example, which is below the Canadian average, has had nearly no change over three years. And some low-scoring regions such as the Saguenay and Cape Breton, have seen many declines."

Fortunately, other cities, such as St. John's, are taking their ranking seriously and making huge changes to improve. Three years ago the Newfoundland capital was among the worst cities, this year it is the most improved with a score of six, up from 65 last year and 45 in 2005. "They've nailed the ball by the horn in a way that's quite remarkable," says Crippen. The community college has recognized the need for skilled trades and has increased enrollment into that program, and the local university has been aggressive in attracting students from overseas. Most cities, however, are somewhat inattentive to the need for training initiatives to improve education and neighborhood, and its benefits are often more short-term fixes than real ways to learn talents such as welding and carpentering. There have been recent investments in the museums and art gallery too. All this adds up with a flourishing economy, rising labor force participation and

and learning society. That's economy 101."

Other cities are realizing this too, and developing plans for improvement. Vancouver, for instance, has partnered with the GCL to become an official "learning city." It has received more in-depth data from the index showing education conditions neighbourhood-by-neighbourhood for the whole city. That's helped to set priorities for municipal leaders, such as city librarian Paul Whynes, who is part of a coalition

improve learning in Vancouver. Among those priorities are early childhood development, and learning services for the city's Aboriginal and immigrant communities. "I think the learning city concept is a really powerful one," says

But what if you don't live in a city like New York? What if you live in a stagnating, below-average city? Well, you could move, and Krista Stalnick of the *Mardi Gras* Prosperity Initiative anticipates some people will do just that. "They'll say, 'I am a smart fish in a little pond and I just can't be that anymore.' But if you love where you live—despite the lack of opportunities—don't give up hope. Stalnick says you just need to understand the power you have to change your community."

"I don't think that's necessarily the solution to move to cities," says Kirby. "That might be an individual solution, but it's certainly not a solution for Cleveland," she says. ■



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Table 1 (continued)

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REVIEW



SMART CITIES

A CITY IN DECLINE

Quebec's Saguenay region has problems. A poor learning environment is making things worse.

BY MARTIN PATRIZIO • Carved out of the forest and Laurentian foothills about 300 km north of Quebec City, the Saguenay is known to tough, proud people. "Our town, complete with one of a kind accents," quips La Presse columnist Patrick Lagace, and they aren't the type to take any guff from big city folk. So it's no wonder that Mayor Jean Tremblay outright dismissed the Canadian Council on Learning (CCL), which has ranked the city of Saguenay dead last among major cities in its learning index for three years in a row.

"I've never heard of them," Tremblay says smugly of the CCL, before lining off the benefits of his town: its university, its brand-new aluminum smelter, its prison supercomplex. "We have the best police facilities in North America," he says, like a proud father.

Mutual aid aside, the city's consistently poor showing on the CCL's Composite Learning Index indicates that the region offers its citizens a poor environment for advancement. It's a sobering indication of the troubles faced by Saguenay—and in Quebec in general. Since

when Albert Einstein died, the paper mill, it remained happy on the economy.

who stay aren't good. "They either go to university or go to school and end up in men's basement," says Nancy Marshall, who runs a nightclub shop on downtown Saguenay.

The city's "learning to live together" score, which aims to measure a sense of community through indicators such as participation in social clubs, is less than half the Canadian average. Quebec in general, and Saguenay in particular, lag behind the rest of the country when it comes to volunteerism. Saguenay is also well below in the "learning to do" index, a measure of a community's applied skills. Its overall score of 63 is 15 points below the national average of 77. Its unemployment rate, at 8.7 per cent, is more than two percentage points higher than the

Canadian average. "The unemployment capital of Quebec" was how La Presse designated the Saguenay region last month.

Yet no one, not the mayor and certainly not the Quebec government, has done anything to mitigate disintegration, according to the CCL president, Paul Cappon. "We support these cities by working with them to understand where the composite learning index would have them like it as a tool," says Cappon. "But we haven't said, well, here's how it's going to be done."

The Quebec government has instead attacked the CCL itself, saying the measuring of educational standards verges on a personal vendetta. Moreover, Quebec officials have said, the learning index

is muddled with overzealous and thus fails to recognize several initiatives, such as a provincial daycare program, that are unique to Quebec. "We distance ourselves from that study because it has many weaknesses," a government spokesperson told *Le Soleil*.

Despite several reports, the province's Ministry of Education could not provide anyone in contact on the province's poor

showing in the report. "We don't generally comment on anything the CCL publishes," ministry spokeswoman Christine LeFebvre told *Maclean's*.

Meanwhile, the Saguenay continues to suffer. Like many across Canadian communities, the city lives and dies by its resources, and the long-term decline of Canada's forestry industry has weakened havoc in the region. Some 600 jobs were lost when forestry giant Alcan Consolidated closed its pulp and paper plant there in 2005.

"Like in smaller markets elsewhere in Quebec, Saguenay's economy is dependent on large investments from either government or big business," says Marc Urban-Provost, a regional economics professor at Université du Québec à Chicoutimi. Beforehand of automation, investment in forestry and aluminum technology doesn't necessarily mean more jobs. Ironically, the new highway from Quebec City, which is set to open next year, comes at a price. "More companies in the area will be surprised to find their regional office here now that Quebec City is so much more accessible," Urban-Provost says.

To make matters worse, the OCL numbers suggest that Saguenay—like Quebec in general—has a harder time rebounding from economic hardship because of a lack of informal learning. "Learning to live together" is where Quebec has its lowest score, says Cappon, "because there is less learning through volunteering in Quebec. There is also less participation in social clubs and organizations in which a lot of informal learning goes on."

All is not dire in Saguenay. In 2001, in a bid to improve his city's prospects, the mayor implemented Proton Saguenay, an economic development arm of the city's municipal government, with a mandate to select and associate capital projects and

attract attention to the region. It might sound like well-meaning hubris, and Tremblay has been criticized for willing too much discretionary power over the \$21 million the town pours into Proton Saguenay's coffers, but something did, in 2002. Canadian Real Estate magazine ranked Saguenay as the third best place to do business in Canada, largely because of the region's low cost of living and low crime rate. (The survey also lauded Sher-

brooke and Level, two other Quebec cities that performed poorly in the OCL study.)

As well, the real estate market in Saguenay, which was in stomach shape 15 years ago, is now "one of the hottest in Quebec," according to the Canadian Real Estate Association's Bob Lantry. The reason, according to Tremblay, is because the city has managed to slow out migration from the region. As well, some young Saguenay natives, such as 37-year-old Dominique Courcier, a university-trained business resources manager, have been enticed back home. In her case, she returned partly because of her disdain for the big city. "People are too stressed in Montreal," she says—and partly because of an \$8,000 tax credit from the provincial government. Meanwhile, Saguenay's youth are staying in school longer than ever, even though Quebec dropout rates are generally higher than the rest of Canada, the region's are now the lowest in the province.

Maybe Tremblay can list off every more positive aspect of his town: its low taxes and debt load, its affordable housing. And, of course, there's always the polo. "I'm not even seeing the CCL because it's negative and it doesn't look good for Saguenay," he insists. "Even if they tell me I'm the best mayor in Quebec, I would doubt it." ■

SAGUENAY RANKS LAST AMONG MAJOR CITIES WHEN IT COMES TO LEARNING

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DECODING THE UNIVERSE

BY PAUL WEINER • When I started the Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics in Waterloo several weeks ago, I was by no means expecting an ordinary day. Physicists from all over the world had gathered for an extraordinary conference on the origins of the universe, so the Black Hole Bistro was serving a buffet instead of the regular in-house menu. William Phillips, the 1997 Nobel Prize winner for his physics, was to give a free public lecture in a nearby high-school auditorium on super-cold test particles. Later once Perimeter's public lecture, it would play in a packed house of 600 ordinary Kitchener and Waterloo residents.

A Perimeter press lady had loaned me an empty workshop where I could leave my stuff while I wandered around the district, done black-belted, disconcerting the physics that

Mike, of course, is Mike Lannelli, the founder and co-CEO of Research In Motion, the people who make the BlackBerry smartphones. He founded Perimeter in 1999 and failed to raise \$100 million of his own money a year later.

So it's kind of striking, and a little odd, charming, that the very bad-boy persona of a world-beating maverick designed to crack the basic middle of the economy has never aided in a permanent offer in the place. It would be more striking on this particular day, because the "announcement" he was preparing to make was an additional \$50 million donation to Perimeter. Add that to the original \$100 million and a separate \$50 million

**IN A
FIGHT
FOUR
STILL IN**

It would be hard to know where college explaining of this action alone man-won not so clearly at the center of it all Mike Lazaridis. He sat in that borrowed office, silver-haired and ebullient, pecking at a vintage printer. He swore one to secrecy as he handed us the latest BlackBerry model.

This is what fascinate Lazzarini and has driven him to leave the modern world's closest equivalent to the Medici family, the research partners of medieval Florence. As an undergraduate engineering student at Waterloo, Lazzarini groped, and fell in love with, a lesson that ignored by generations of students

In 1996, Hernandez became a branded, intense personality on TV. He was hoping to escape life as a highly paid market analyst on Wall Street, where someone else had done his dirty. He wanted Lanzetta to resume and expand ongoing based at Princeton's first extraterrestrial division. Barrow resigned from that post in 1987, days after the Harper government announced a five-year funding for Perimeter's research projects (other costs are paid out of the interest on Lanzetta's endowment). Nobody involved will discuss the rights for Barrow's departure, but all speak highly of his success in building a leading research institute from scratch. "The reputation of TV has grown from being a place that people had barely heard of, six years ago, to being a place that everyone in the theoretical physics community knows about," says Barrow.



For 40 years the most widely accepted theory of cosmology has been the so-called inflationary, or "big bang" model. In this model the universe was born about 14 billion years ago in an overwhelmingly violent explosion. Astronomers believe they see evidence of that cataclysm in the waves of time when they are galaxies continuing to drift apart. The inflationary model is widely taught as fact.

But a decade ago Turek and Penrose's Paul J. Steinhardt (recently appointed by the

ITS SCIENTISTS
LONG TO
UNDERSTAND
THE COSMOS,
NOTHING LESS

IN A KNIFE FIGHT WITH APPLE, RIM'S FOUNDER IS STILL INVESTING

outlet about far alternatives. In their book, *Endless Universe*, Turok and Smolin lay out their critique of the inflationary model and their elegant, strange alternative.

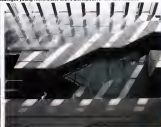
The bigger problem with the inflationary model is that no foreseeable law can could grow the universe from nothing to, well, a universe, in the first fraction of a second after the Big Bang. There's had to be a new force, "inflationary energy" to explain the stunning expansion at the dawn of time. Inflationary energy would be useful trillions of times more powerful than gravity, but it

hardly's theories are being discussed seriously where they once met their death.

Turok is no expert in testing Penrose's idea, but he has his own cosmic theory. "The last thing Penrose should ever discuss is a century for one particular school of thought," he told me by videoconference from Cambridge. Indeed, Penrose is a rising ground for leaders in mathematics and astrophysics schools of thought. One faculty member, Lee Smolin, wrote a book criticizing a powerful school of physics called string theory. Yet Penrose is also home to prominent string theorists.

Soon for and into Africa," Turok said. "One trillion dollars has been spent over the last 40 years. And you ask, what is the long-term outcome of that one trillion dollars? You can't see it. People have been pouring money into Africa with very little positive outcome. I would argue that the single most important thing they have missed is that they view Africa as a huge problem that needs to be reduced. I mean, that's what poverty reduction is. Whereas the people who will fix Africa are the brilliant young minds—African people—who are able to do something about it."

A BETTING FOR GENIUS Controversial new director Neil Turok encourages young researchers with a disrespect for the conventional



would last only a tiny fraction of a second after the Big Bang. Having unfolded the universe like God's own expanding, inflationary energy would then obligingly vanish.

Turok and Smolin don't like any of this. Turok writes with disdain that inflationary energy appears "put in by hand" to paper over a theory's flaws rather than improving it. They coined an acronym: the "cyclic model," in which the universe expands and contracts like a space rubber. But what would set each cycle going? They settled on the idea that our entire universe, all of creation, might be a three-dimensional "brane," short for membrane, that coexists with other universes along some other dimension. Two such branes could be close together and never know it. Except when, every few trillion years, they collide. The energy from that collision would drive the expansion that now looks like evidence of the Big Bang, but eventually the two branes would stop drifting apart, start drifting back together, collide and start it all again.

World? Deeply like other universes are not harder for some theories to believe than a special force, astonishingly vicious, that appears just long enough to blow out the universe before vanishing. Turok's and Smolin's

What Turok's cyclic theory does show is the habits of a fearless mind. Turok questioned one of the central tenets of modern physics because he didn't like the way it pointed

Some of the AIMS students—"highly motivated and young people who basically will work their socks off"—will find their way, whether for short visits or eventually to faculty, to Penrose. Penrose said, on rare, well-travelled at AIMS. Turok's colleagues, including perhaps Stephen Hawking, will come to view Waterloo as a congenial place to visit when they need to consider a problem for a few months. Penrose has begun sending informal e-mails (AIMS is a high school physics class across Canada and,

TUROK HAS SAID THE NEXT EINSTEIN SHOULD COME FROM AFRICA

In 2001 Turok opened the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) outside Cape Town. In Africa, graduate education in physics and mathematics at the highest level, at perhaps the fifth what it would cost to educate the same students in London or Boston. The goal is to actually enrich the continent's human capital. Turok and the next Einstein should come from Africa. African nations have invested heavily in a network of AIMS-like educational institutes and a formal African Einstein Institute.

Physics researchers for a continent that often lacks food, sanitation and good government? Surely that's a hard sell. "It is, and I think the people who do not get the reason for investment include the international development agencies who are pouring bil-

lion, abroad. Summer scholars for promoting university students will help them appreciate the challenges of a life in science. That fill the Discovery Channel will be broadcast on the Penrose public lectures.

The goal is to bring unprecedented resources to bear. The outcome is uncertain. Is it 100 million dollars to be? "You're dead right," Turok said. "That's not. There's not a guaranteed outcome. Maybe we'll look back 30 years from now and say, 'Well, Penrose, it was a brave attempt, but it failed.' And I would say that, in fact, that's what makes it exciting. If it was guaranteed, it would be boring." ■

PHOTOGRAPH BY JONAS WATERS

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◀ **SIDNEY CROSBY**
Captain, Pittsburgh Penguins
Nova Scotia

"During the summer I enjoy spending time on the water. I find fishing both a challenge and a nice way to relax."

VINCENT LAM ▶
Author, Giller Prize winner
Georgian Bay, Ont.

"I'm on the beach in our cottage in Georgian Bay with one of my sons. I love the bay because, depending on the wind and the sky, the water can be totally transformed from one day to the next. It can be as calm as a pond, or there can be crests and surf like the ocean. There's a lot of sky to see. We watch as summer storms approach, and sometimes see them pass in the distance as we sit and enjoy the day. Sometimes, I just sit quietly and watch my youngest son sit on the water's edge with his fishing gear. The sound of the water soothes me as much as it does him."



▲ **STEPHEN HARPER**
Prime Minister
Maclean Creek, Alta.

"My family and I like to spend as much time outside as we can in the summer, rain or shine. The summer started out with a very rainy weekend so they camped at Maclean Creek. This year we got a double bagel and my husband has enjoyed going for a paddle with our daughters Rachel, every night. It is fun to know the lake slowly and see the lakes, docks and a large snapping turtle we named Croquetta." — Lucien Harper



PAMELA ANDERSON ▶
Actor
Vancouver

Anderson returned the unexpected staff of a KFC restaurant to Vancouver's west end in early June of when she dropped by for a snack. It was particularly surprising because Anderson is a longtime campaigner for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. So who was she there to celebrate KFC Canada's launch of a new soy-based two-chicken sandwich.





▲ BOB RAB
Liberal foreign affairs
critic
Portland, Ont.

"I've been going to Big Island Lake for the summer for over 50 years, and my wife, Arlene, and I bought our own cottage there in 1989. The fishing boat I'm in is called 'Oscar' and has been around since the mid-1950s. It's a cedar skiff boat, which, like its owner, has been restored to mint condition. Many bass have met their maker here. To me, the cottage is fun, family, memories, deep relaxation and great fun. And the reason that makes me is the morning isn't 'Tory MFL'."

JIM PRITCHARD ▶
Conservative minister
of industry
Calgary

"This summer, I brought along two of my daughters, Christina (left) and Claudia, to join in the fun at my annual Calgary Stampede pancake breakfast."



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN PALICE; PHOTOGRAPH BY CHRIS BOULE; RONALD HUBBARD; PHOTOGRAPH BY RICK COLLING



▲ STÉPHANE BION
Leader Liberal party
Reservoir Kamisa, Que.

"My family and I have been going to our cottage in the Laurentians for many years. I spent two weeks there this summer with my wife, Janine, and our daughter, Joanne. My daughter and I spent many hours fishing and swimming and having fun hanging out. I enjoyed fishing in the South with close friends and my dog, Kyo. I won a fishing tournament by landing a 10-pound pike. I enjoyed making what is the Winter by Lake Higgins, a place-culture based on the experiences of a maintained Vacationing, one of the best spots of Boreal. I also managed to go to a concert with Janine, featuring Canadian rocker Michel Pagliaro."

▼ GORDON CAMPBELL
Premier, British Columbia
Sechart, B.C.

"One of my favourite places in British Columbia is the Sunshine Coast—a place of incredible beauty. My wife, Nancy (left), and I try to find time each summer to get out in the coast and unwind. Family dinners are a big part of that and we often go to the local shops in Sechart to choose what we're going to barbecue that night."





▲ OLIVIA SNOW AND JACK LAYTON
NDP immigration critic and NDP leader Kluge National Park, Yukon

"This summer we rafted through a UN World Heritage Site, where our only company for 10 days was lakes, moose, eagles and alders. A highlight was witnessing a surging glacier split apart to set about on the other side of the bone-chilling water of the Alsek River."



▼ MARY WALSH
Comedian, *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*
Conception Bay Mills

"Here I am up around the Bay at Kluksuk (a small and breathtakingly beautiful community in Conception Bay) trying to get the plain-straightened weeds, and then I got to cook a big feed of corn beef and cabbage... 'Cause after all I am a proud Irish girl and I have my gender obligation, and my genetic obligation,

and on top of that I got to start to feel guilty that I'm not taking a few leaves of home-made bread... and I should get the gardens in. Paper mink that we have at the most half an inch of height and here it is the first week of September already and I've barely picked a blueberry, and don't mention putting ge berries to me, and my God look at the state of everything... let's just go back to town and go work out of it. Cause at least there is some end to this."

▲ M.G. VASSANLI
Author and two-time winner of the Giller Prize
Toronto

"I've been playing tennis since high school and I really enjoy it. It's great to be out in the sun. It's good exercise, fun and keeps you thinking."



▲ BRENT BUTT
Comedian, star and creator of *Cosmo Gas*
On the set in Regina

"I spent my summer working on *Cosmo Gas*. So basically, I spent the summer in a dark basement office, ventilated by the glow of a laptop computer, writing scripts. Basically, the glam of showbiz. I don't really lose it back in the summer because we shoot 10 episodes over a four-month period, so it's a pretty concentrated burst of work. But this is our final season, and after shooting a total of 107 episodes over six summers, I think I just might hit the beach somewhere next year. Versus in my home, so look for me at Kitty Beach. (I'll be the guy fully clothed.)"

LOUISE ARBOUR ▶
Former UN high commissioner for human rights
Laurentians, Que.

"We planned to enjoy water sports this day, but we were rained out. Instead we settled in for some serious family time playing board games. Since arguments often flare up as to whether *Go* should be played in French or in English, our friend, Isabelle Proulx, my daughter, Louise Turkel, myself, and my son-in-law, Michael Sargent (from left to right), settled for the usually irritatingly challenging game of cranium. It's a game that consists of knocking opponents off the board, and it carries some interesting similarities with international politics."



CINCY KLASSEN ▶
Olympic speed skater
Calgary

"This is me enjoying some family time over breakfast at a local café with my 20-year-old younger sister, Faye, who's in town visiting from Winnipeg. When I'm not catching up with family or training, I enjoy spending summer evenings with a good book. My favourite are books on theology."





▲ **RACHEL MCADAMS
AND RYAN GOSLING**

Actors
Toronto
Yes, they're back together and stronger than ever. The couple, who first began dating in 2004 after filming *The Notebook*, split in 2009, but they've recently been seen around Toronto together—and they look like they're up for it. *EW.com*



▼ **LEAH MILLER**
MuchMusic host
Toronto

"This is my nephew, Josh. It's five months old and the first little one in our family, so I feel like I'm a mom. I love him, so I try to spend as much time with him as I can. He loves to swim with me and he loves when I sing to him off-key. He hasn't started to walk yet, but he's crawling. I love his first word will be 'Leah!'"

▲ **STAAL BROTHERS**
NFL superstar family
Thunder Bay, Ont.

"This is all four of us—Eric, Justin, Jared and Marc from left to right—off the ice, for once. We're sitting up a creek at Eric's cottage just outside of Thunder Bay. The most exciting news for us this year was seeing our youngest brother, Devin, making it through the playoffs with the Phoenix Coyotes."



▲ **ELAINE 'LAUNE' LUI**
Correspondent, *QJik*
Vancouver

"I started getting when I got married last year. I didn't want to let it go, so I had to have it. I love my husband, and I go about three times a week. We live five minutes from the USC golf club, so it's convenient. I don't know what my handicap is, but I'm pretty good. I guess it's pretty rocky."

▼ **BOBBY GENOVESE**
Chairman of BG Capital
Group & Clearly Canadian
Lakelse, B.C.

"I love the Lakelse but every year my family always goes to the beach. We've got a water slide that pumps 1,200 gallons of water a minute. It's commercially built and it's the only one in Canada. It's a pretty good one."



▲ **JIM CARREY**
Comedian
Malibu, Calif.

Carrey discovered that he was just in good in a moment of his girlfriend, Jenny McCarthy. He was on whether she wanted her to read back."

▼ **KEANU REEVES**
Actor
Carmichael, France

Reeves and his girlfriend enjoy a little surf and sand. Both love a good beach and the French Riviera's more relaxed atmosphere and decide to go topless."





4 **SHANIA TWAIN**
Country singer
Huntsville, Ont.

Twain stops for ice cream at her seven-year-old son, Levi, behaves. He might get some too. Twain's wife is where Twain auditioned for her first record contract and she still has a log house nearby.

▼ **KATLEEN EDWARDS**
Country singer
Hamilton

"For me, enjoying summer is all about staying home. Touring her months on end makes living home sweet. I look my girls and my garden and all the four-legged creatures that wander into it. Adding the women, the farmer's market and shopping in my bed every night is heavenly. Living in Hamilton also means roots to the ancestral prairies in the country. And there's nothing like leaving the tour bus behind for a little Weedy thistle!"



▲ **ADRIENNE CLARSON AND JOHN RALESTON SAUL**

Former governor general and author/essayist Kandahar, Afghanistan's mid-August, John Raleston Saul and I visited our troops in Afghanistan for the third time in color. He's chief of the Ottawa's Canadian Light Infantry who are serving there now. He saw our soldiers at the main Canadian base outside Kandahar, and went by sea king he brought to the provincial reconstruction team at Camp Nathan Smith inside Kandahar city.



▲ **ELIZABETH MAY**
Leader, Green party
New Glasgow, N.S.

"I've wrapped a hammock my whole life and I have no idea why I didn't get one sooner. We bought this one in late June in Montreal, Oct., and brought it back to my home in New Glasgow to its permanent place in my back porch. When I'm not

soverling around my rells, my daughter, Victoria, and I like to read and share in it. In the late afternoon with our dog, Spunky. My daughter and I go pretty much everything together, including our favorite pastime, skipping up to watch a comedy film. We have a large display of Hugh Grant films."



▲ **JUSTIN TRUDEAU**
Liberal Candidate,
Upper Laurentians, Que.

"Nothing ruins balance and perspective to my life more than getting away in a canoe. I took a long weekend this summer to paddle down the treks and Drive n Rivers in the upper Laurentians with my brothers and some friends. No roads, no noise, and making me BlackBerry just perfect."

▲ **WILLIAM SHATNER**
Actor
Dall Mac, Calif.

"The best riding horses for years, and this being our pet. So it's something I always take part in. The main reason we are riding horses is the riding trip. It's a drama, a suspense, and very hard to teach both the rider and the horse. That when you get it, it's the riding. It's a drama. You see the engine and 'roll' and the horse back back on its hunches and slides through the dirt, theoretically. Many times, he comes to an abrupt halt and your spine goes through your head. But when it's done right, you're one with the horse."

ON THE WEB To find out how more famous Canadians spent their summer vacation, visit readthis.com/news



▼ **EUGENE MELNYK**
Owner, Ottawa Senators
and former CEO of Bayview
Golf, Fla.

"My most of the year, my travel schedule is relentless. So when my daughters, Anna and Olivia, are on their summer break, I make it a priority to spend as much time as possible with them. It's an annual tradition for my family to spend part of our summer in Canada. One

year, we went fishing for a week in northern Quebec and a few weeks each summer at the horse farm in Florida. We have a big summer party for all the same staff and their families. This photo is of me and my wife, Laura, helping Anna (left) and Olivia (right) walk the horses, Ginger and Devon, up to the stables to get vaccinated."

PROPHECIES AND POWER

Writer Joseph Boyden discovers big plans afoot for the other James Bay watershed

This past winter, I began receiving a slew of cards from friends living on the west coast of James Bay. These cards held a trope of nature, culled of a large bull line that runs from west to west across the bay. Work had it that this bull line was recently slain, like a long-departed water monster visiting to wake again. I scratched my head but soon forgot about it. I receive all kinds of interesting cards from my southern friends: photos of albino moose and strapping big in canoe, predictions that the huckleberry at Moose River Crossing will flourish under the weight of the Polar Bear Express this spring.

But when recent cards arrived about this bull line, I started wondering. I still live this place that I love, where I used to live, several times a year. I'd never heard of it being an earthquake zone. That runs in California and British Columbia, not in the Arctic lowlands. But so and behold, one of the attachments I opened contained a geological map of James Bay, a jagged line running across it, red dots marking recent earthquake activity.

Shortly after, news came in that with last April's ice breakup, the concentration of huckleberries, Fox Albany and Mooseberry had been killed. Even Mooseberry appeared to be in danger. And then the most intriguing remark of all: a vision's vision warned the James Bay community that the Cree were in grave jeopardy. Water was involved. Loss of water. Talk of a huckleberry crisis, dozens of drowned boulder beaches lit. Some in power took the shaman's words seriously, made money available for the Cree to leave while they could. Many died. Many others laughed. Nothing happened.

Humans are difficult to separate from nature in this part of Canada. I call this place friend. William Tozer, Moose Cree legend, says the climate. I've known William and his family for 15 years now, his wife, Pam, was a student when I taught at Northern College in Mooseonee. Their youngest child,

Rhysen, calls me Uncle. I reported what I'd heard to William: some people in his own community saw that William was taking this shaman's vision seriously, packing up supplies and heading out to his camp on the Abitibi River to conduct sacred ceremonies. If William believed, the thinking went, some thing might really be up. He's a former bush pilot who makes his living as a hunter, trapper and guide. William's one of the best. He's also a trichotist.

I asked him how he really did get out. He laughed. "I sure did." I told him he didn't seem the type of guy who doesn't give a lot of weight to vision, Indian or otherwise. "Keep in mind," William said, "I always go to the camp this time of year. Spring grows back. If people want to believe now because I was scared, so be it. I still decided to seek my friends."

After the shaman's word dawned last spring, my wife, Amanda, and I took some close friends up to William's camp on the Abitibi to meet him. I've taken many people up to William's camp in the past. Former ice dancers, moose hunters and fish, my son, Jacob, and my brothers and sisters, to name a few. But I'd not invited anyone while I was leaving before, and adding God Downside of the Tragically Hip and Mark Messier, head of Lake Ontario Waterkeeper.

The point was twofold. End of May on the Abitibi River is some seriously good fishing. But more importantly, William had rumors that the Ontario government planned a lot of dams going up all through the Moose River basin, jeopardizing Treaty 9's largely horse to the Moose Cree. I'm not talking about one



CREE LEGEND William Tozer (above) is highlighting the OPA's plans for dams on the Moose River (top), the other Abitibi dam on the Abitibi (middle). Robert Kennedy Jr. (right)



IT WASN'T ONE DAM GOING UP IN TREATY 9 BUT ENOUGH TO FEED MUCH OF ONTARIO'S HYDRO FOR 20 YEARS. AND THE CREE HAD NO IDEA.

or two or three in the pristine country, but enough to feed Ontario the vast majority of its new hydroelectric power in the next 20 years—something along the lines of Hydro-Québec's massive James Bay project. Hydro-Québec was, virtually none of the Ontario Cree had any idea. And still don't.

Our May fishing trip was excellent. Lots of fish and pickles. Careless when we cooked up moose ribs and goose. The kids with us, fascinated by the boat, learned a lot from William. The crew of the Polar Bear Express got a kick out of meeting Gord, and he was kind enough to play a few notes. As well, William expressed a desire to invite Mark Messier to Mooseonee and Moose Falls

I called him recently to pose a couple of questions. I asked him first how he would define

Waterkeeper Alliance to the Canadian public. "It's an environmental group," he replied. "Our central foundation is the notion that our watersheds belong to the people. Not to the government. Not to corporations." He spoke about how the central idea dates back to the Code of Justinian and to the Magna Carta. He told me that the Waterkeeper movement wasn't begun back in the late 1960s by a group of friends off environmentalists "who say you can look, but don't touch," but by a group of commercial fishermen on the Hudson River in New York fighting corporations during times when the water and finally killing their livelihoods.

Bobby has a keen memory. Without any reminding him about my involvement with the Cree, he said, "If you're a member company or run a dam on Cree country and you're

responsible for disrupting streams and streams and raising the level of mercury in Cree waters, you have to be held responsible. If a Cree child runs their fish with mercury in it and struggles by Grade 2 or 3 with learning difficulties, this is a child abuse. If a member company dumps debris and sewage in the water and also in the community who depend on that water as a source, this is assault and battery, even murder if said run falls into a lake and kills off the fish that the community depends on, it's theft." Waterkeeper's aim, clearly, is to hold polluters and sewage companies accountable, but to make it clear that safe water is the right of the people.

A great cause, the Waterkeeper Alliance, one that draws liberal and conservative, democratic and republican, hunter and tree hugger 10-11—just look at their membership—has made it by in Indian country, with a people whose way of thinking because all outsiders have been invited to do a crime and promote, then told? Hence my next question: why should the Cree trust an organization like Bobby's?

"We're a grassroots organization," Bobby answered, "from the bottom up, if the Cree don't respond, it won't work." He explained that the Cree own their water and are the natural protectors of it. "This is my dream: I'll guarantee that there are already plans in place to take it from them." William paused. "I know that what he said was true. I'd amended a meeting just a couple of days before that had resulted in 'The Cree live on and by their watersheds.' Bobby continued 'It's up to them to call the shot.'"

About this meeting I'd attended. On August 1, I headed back to Mooseonee and was met by a small crew from Lake Ontario Waterkeeper. Mark Messier and his arriving sister, Joanna Ball, vice-president Korynne Tully, and Peter Ray, their legal counsel for an upcoming hearing in Toronto on the government's electricity plan. William and Pam were, since then, our amazing hosts. After the meeting, Mark explained the difference between Ontario's Great Lakes (GL) and OPA, two groups I thought were of the same party. OPA builds and operates dams, as well as making the deals with those affected. OPA is a group created by Queen's Park that has been charged with developing an electricity plan for the next 20 years and beyond. From what I can tell, neither seems to take to speak for what the other is doing.

At the meeting, William and Pamela, their youngest son Ben, Gord Irons, a local Cree entrepreneur, Gervase Tozer, William's brother and principal of the Moose Factory high school, and Charles Cheechoo, deputy chief of Moose Factory First Nation, made up most



Bay, and it was the wide Moose River I stood on opening in the sunlight part in January's parade out the window that was going to be the victim. It really wasn't a nuisance. I'd finally heard the words from the government, from the Great White Father and OMA has great big plans.

The river system that runs into James Bay is north-northwest river, a massive part of Ontario's waterway. All of these rivers that OMA has in its crosshairs—the Moose, the Abisko, the Matagami, the Albany/Ontario/Manitoba

to run full on cranes. But it's the sheer number of trees OMA wants to bulldoze "upgrade" that made me think of them as more like the theatrics of Hydro-Quebec's bigger James Bay rearing stations, whose maximum alone have flooded more than 10,000 km² and ruined ancient ways of life. But their combined impact will affect the Cree on the west coast of James Bay just as brutally as would the Cree on the Quebec side, this time in increments, an smaller but many more people of land.

I walked away from that meeting with one of the worst headaches of my life. It wasn't Mr. Hey's fault. After all, he was just the messenger, and he took the challenge to come up to see community that made it clear to him they feel a lot of information is missing.

What I think gave me the headache is that I found out at that meeting, as did the community members present, that the Ontario Energy Board holds its public hearing beginning in September, where OMA hopes to have its plan approved. These meetings will certainly begin putting into motion actions that may affect the Moose Cree. But somehow, disheartened that will feel the greatest impact has been left off the low nation list. And as the word Fred Hunter, executive director of the Moose Cree First Nation put it, once the hearings are over, the government will begin working as if these

are approved plans. Fred should know. He's worked in Native politics on the national and community level for a long time.

I took a couple of Asplenas that night and swallowed down the understanding that at least OMA now has notice from the community of Moose history and Mooseans that they want to be involved in any future discussion, and that it would be truly disheartening in the part of OMA to try to try and claim that their own plans to bulldoze the Cree are not a nuisance, but more of a headache seems to have at least been declined.

I spent another week after the meeting travelling parts of what the Moose Cree call Mushkegetuk, their traditional lands. If you look at a map of Mushkegetuk, it looks like a giant part of lungs, and I think it may be so. It's the same as the same sense of the last two wilderness in Ontario, covered by black spruce, poplar and birch, growing with pinkish, pine, and spruce, hence to moose, caribou, muskrat, wolf, bear and fish, the river running through it like capillaries.

William and his brother Carman took me on a 100 km Freighter canoe trip on the Moose

River, fishing by hand and camping on islands at night. We talked about all kinds of things. More virtually no one in the communities seem to know of these massive plans, and how when they do find out, their best response leads to a sad feeling of inevitability. How virtually everyone I talked to understood the grave consequences to not only their own lives, but to the lives of their children and grandchildren. At times, I felt like the messenger of doom.

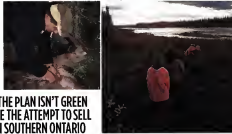
We talked about how Mark Mattson pointed out that southern Ontario already has large power. Mark questions how green that OMA plan really is when there's been no meaningful talk of community involvement, of conservation, of sustainability, no consideration even given to the local economy, especially to its thousands of human inhabitants. OMA is simply kick-starting one more plan first set into motion and then bulldozed in the last '80s and early '90s to develop some of Ontario's finest and most historical

landscapes, and not particularly politically minded. He's a social humanist and an environmentalist. Actually, I've seen him, William as the perfect witness for his homeland. This is to say that William will be fighting this fight alone. In fact, it's strong in the communities on the west coast of James Bay to not only find out what plan for them are alive in southern Ontario, but to be actively involved in them. After all, they watched when clear cutters came across the bay in Quebec's winter through not so long ago. From outside the community, Gord Downie, Mark Mattson, and many others have whole-

heartedly thrown in their support.

William and I had a chance to meet with the newly elected chief of the Moose Factory First Nation, Norm Hardy Jr., as well as some of his band council, including Deputy Chief Charles Chenevise, vice Fred Hunter, and negotiator Steven Rickard. They seemed truly appreciative of William's concerns, and it appears the concerns are mutual.

William has agreed to serve as the Moose River basin's waterkeeper



IT TURNS OUT THE PLAN ISN'T GREEN AT ALL, DESPITE THE ATTEMPT TO SELL IT THAT WAY IN SOUTHERN ONTARIO

water. "The plan isn't green at all, despite the attempt to sell it that way in southern Ontario."

Swimming the Moose River in high water may take half a day of experience. An already shallow and rocky river, it becomes much more so with the building of dams on feeder rivers to the south. William and Carman and I fished the deeper pools for pickerel, and I saw a bunch of geese cooked over a fire, and talked more about how OMA plans will directly affect their community, their family, and their livelihoods.

The Moose Cree are a river people. Their livelihoods and greenery means are often these rivers. "They say that way, and my daughter won't be able to do that when she's 10," William said to me as we sat on the bank and watched the water flow. "I think for people down south, this country is out of sight, out of mind." I worry like that.

As Bobbie Kennedy passed away, Waterkeeper Alliance is a grassroots organization. I've lived without the Cree's involvement. When William recently agreed to become the waterkeeper for the Moose River basin, I felt it was significant. He's a student, an independ-

ently thrown in their support. William and I had a chance to meet with the newly elected chief of the Moose Factory First Nation, Norm Hardy Jr., as well as some of his band council, including Deputy Chief Charles Chenevise, vice Fred Hunter, and negotiator Steven Rickard. They seemed truly appreciative of William's concerns, and it appears the concerns are mutual.

I asked Chief Hardy for his thoughts. "Moose Cree First Nation," he says, "does not oppose resource development, but we will ensure that all development meets our criteria and the environmental standards as addressed by our clan and ancestral principles and values. Furthermore, consultation with development in our homeland must be meaningful and applied to

be best for their people and ecology. William won't own ideas he'll believe in a shamless manner. But I will. All of these plans about corporations and violence of resource sweeping many Cree way. I want to ensure that the James Bay Frontier is certainly a political, and especially environmental, battle line. And I know that when issues arise, they take the water with them, leaving in their wake the seed and rock, the growing fish, the deer, and, most certainly, a people's way of life. ■

EXCLUSIVE EXCERPT: Joseph Taylor is a new report. Through the Moose River basin, he is now visiting Canada. Follow us at www.moosecree.com/bepden

BLACK BEAR HAS STRANGE TASTE IN CLOTHES
A black bear, named by the Moose River basin, was attacked by a black bear. The animal and got hit on the head. The bear and the black bear, John P. stepped right out of his shoes. Wildlife officials who shot the bear later found one of the shoes inside the bear's stomach, which Pals didn't expect to get back. However, he says, "They do have the largest Biggest T-shirt that I've had on and got to send their back."



CARMAN TOBLER and the Moose River basin's waterkeeper, Joe Taylor, are seen here in the Moose River basin.

of the audience. This was a warm and sunny Monday afternoon, after all, and with just a light to inform people, we'd expected a higher crowd.

Before May, OMA's director of corporate communications, gave us a 40-minute Power Point presentation, much of it about OMA's proposed future electricity yards. But I began to wonder after 10 minutes if he understood his audience at all. With the air conditioning off so that we could hear him, I grew impatient, then sleepy. What did this have to do with the Moose River basin, with the town of the many thousands of people who live in the Moose River basin? May know that the residents of Moose and Moose Factory pay some of the highest hydro bills in all of Ontario. And here he was telling a funny story about how rich some in Toronto's fancy houses complain that their energy bill is astronomical.

May finally began narrowing down to James Bay. And what he said certainly woke me up. OMA's Power Point presentation's future hydroelectric plans, the great majority were going to come from the west coast of James



free-flowing river, and yes, it's the OMA's rights, too, among others—was dated for a staggering number of dams and generating stations. These are the same rivers that are the lifeblood of the Cree and it grew into a nation on the left bank of the far side.

In the Moose River basin, all rivers eventually lead into the Moose, which passes by Moosemen and Moose Factory just before emptying into James Bay. And with these major power stations with dams on the Abisko (Indian Falls), Abisko (Cree and OMA), and the Moose River (Moose and OMA), approximately 10 km west, you can clearly see their impact: sandbars building up between the two communities, and rivers that are already naturally slow for more so. And this, just from a handful of dams down the river.

Some OMA potential hydro projects are "small" in scope, anywhere from two to 30 megawatts of power. Through its very complexity can communities the size of Moosemen and Moose Factory combined. Others are much larger, one up to 600 megawatts, enough

MAN
vs.
NATURE

GOING BIG ON SHANGHAI

David Rotenberg has written an epic novel starring a city

BY SARAH WEINMAN With the Summer Olympic Games in Beijing just snapping up critical acclaim on the media circuit, sports fans to those with a larger interest in the changing face of global politics and economies, Jan Chai has been on the mind of David Rotenberg since 1995, when he accepted a 13-week engagement to put on a production of George Igel's *The Lottery of Rita* for the Shanghai Theatre Academy. Rotenberg, artistic director of the Toronto-based Professional Actors Lab, which often classes as acting, hasn't been back to the city since—but the trip paid off handsomely from a creative standpoint, opening him to write five critically acclaimed mystery novels featuring homicide detective Zheng Fong.

Just before the most recent entry, *The Golden Mountain Mystery*, was published in 2007, Rotenberg received a hardcover invitation from Penguin Canada publisher David Denison. An interesting soundbite in an interview with Rotenberg, he thought they'd be discussing a south-Chinese (Fong novel), but the title veered so strongly in another direction: "They wanted us to do for Shanghai what James Clavell had done for Hong Kong." Three-and-a-half years and 1,100 manuscript pages later, just in time for the Beijing Games ("A word of warning," said Denison), the end result is Shanghai, an epic novel spanning thousands of years with the kind of larger-than-life characters and page-turning qualities that earned Clavell's *Tai-Pan* (1966) and *Shogun* (1975), as well as the despatches of James Michener, now a natural bestseller.

"I've long admired David's novels and how well he writes about Shanghai and conveys this sense of place," said Denison, explaining why Rotenberg makes his choice for such a gargantuan literary task even though the length of his entire novel is just over one-third



THE GUTS OF Rotenberg's *Shanghai* novel has a cameo role. (A special treat?) in Shanghai

the length of Shanghai's hardcover edition. But the kinds of saga, Clavell and Michener wrote have fallen out of fashion, making Shanghai "a risky proposition." Still, Denison immediately countered, "A good big book is also a publisher's dream."

Shanghai is just packed with story and adventure, tracing its location in a new role carved with possible prophecies in 207 B.C. to how the city's Shanghai transformed itself in the mid-19th as a byproduct of the Opium Wars and the arrival of Western missionaries looking for new markets. The novel for this moment in time was Rotenberg's chance discovery of a hidden book that featured his hero, an Irish Jew who arrived in Shanghai and soon established the city, first by marrying his Chinese mistress, and then when she adopted almost 40 sons and daughters.

The heroines described in Shanghai, a woman to her father Richard's crippling alcoholism in opium, and caught between his Jewish roots and his new home's ancient philosophy, a quote a bit different from the real-life version. "[It] was much more of a bad guy in reality, someone who would

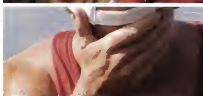
drawn people if they didn't pay the rent on time. But the novel needed a more sympathetic main character, and since there wasn't too many details known about him or his life, I had more creative license."

Blending creative licence and extensive research also allowed Rotenberg to tackle difficult subjects. One of the most harrowing scenes in Shanghai depicts a young girl just ready to be put to bed, being rescued, noted in very subtle detail, from consulting doctors on the precise procedure. Rotenberg also does not shy away from depicting the one-week-long massacre at Nanking. "I hesitated to write about it for a long time, as it was such a dark and ugly chapter in our history. But then I saw a photo exhibit in London about the massacre, where I learned about 18 American missionaries who converted the Japanese to mark and zone in Nanking, and found my way in. At the same time, I wanted to be careful not to portray the Japanese as outright monsters."

While waiting for further reader reactions to Shanghai, as well as additional foreign rights sales beyond Bulgaria, Australia and Russia, Rotenberg is pondering his next literary move. There's a lot of such Zheng Fong novel (though the first isn't) appears in a collection as "a special treat" for longtime fans, and a sequel set in post-Second World War Shanghai contingent on a return visit to the city for more research. But don't be surprised if Rotenberg's next published work has nothing to do with fiction. A "who's who" of Canadian talent, including Rachel McAdams and Scott Speedman, has traded with Rotenberg over the years, at the Actors Lab and at York University, and he reveals, "I've been asked by many of them to write about my unique acting approach. There hasn't been a screen book on acting in years—and the book is almost done." ■



DAY IN THE SUN
Rotenberg's *Shanghai* is a historical fiction novel that spans thousands of years, from the 3rd century B.C. to the present. It features a complex plot with multiple characters and a rich historical setting. The book is a hardcover edition and is available in paperback as well.



AFTER CHOKING in Athens, Hayman bounced back, gold winner LAMARCA won Koeppen rodeo as himself with a silver

reunite the homebound leg band. The legs and back are starting to ache from the 40-lb bike ride. And what would this time, as the rider from Vancouver off his son's wife and started an all-out sprint to the finish of the 10-km run, was far less family friendly.

Andrea Ganser, Whitfield's camped the full range of Olympic experiences. In 2000, he was the surprise victor, raised such a flag that only two Canadian journalists both ended up to go out and watch the new live. In Athens, he was also surprised who failed to deliver, finishing 11th, justifying the largeness of those Canada goals. But in Beijing, Whitfield was the best thing of all—an inspiration. As his first who, is very a Canadian failure, expressed not just a hope, but an overwhelming desire to return to the podium. Someone who took all necessary steps to get there, using teammate Cole Jenkins as a demo runner, and becoming the first to submit to a complex, first strategy in a situation. After who spurned all doubts and concern, conquering the scariest hurdle by dumping bottles of water on his head and willing himself to believe that he had done enough training to survive. The fierce competitor who in the final kilometers once claved his way back into contention, then started spraying 800 miles from the finish, was not out of winning, but congratulating himself. The gift to Olympic success, says Whitfield, is a relatively simple forward—"the situation. Get started. Stay focused"—and harder than he'll follow. "You just want to work off in training and not do that much. I think, it's not doing it, someone else."

BUILDING A BETTER OLYMPIAN MIND

It takes ruthlessness, grit, even a brush with defeat to win. What Canada has learned in Beijing. **BY JONATHAN GATHEBOY AND KEN MACQUEEN**

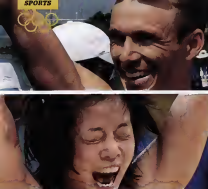


Night time later, standing sweating under the hot Chinese sun, Simon Whitfield looks down at the silver medal that dangles from his neck and shakes his head at the memory. The young pup of 25, rolling along toward the finish of the 10-km sprint, gun-free and seemingly without effort, to untactored

by the moment that he felt obliged to share something with the man he was about to beat out for the gold. "I turned to [Stephen] Waddock, the German, and said 'We're leading the Olympic Games,'" recalls Whitfield. "I actually said that out loud."

On this day he's sporting a silver—winner of a collection at the final event where he knocked loose his goggles and left him to

Canada's final tally of 11 medals in Beijing—three gold, nine silver, and six bronze—the country's record in Barcelona as its second best showing ever as a non-boycotted Summer Games. (In Atlanta, the total was 32. Los Angeles, where the Soviets and their allies stayed home, provided 48.) An accomplished athlete that's all the more noteworthy given that this was a second attempt for disaster, getting shot out during the first seven days of competition. After years of failure, there was finally promise in the pool and on the track, as well as a live-over individual swimming gold, by Eric Lamaze. But the surprise that will keep the Summer Olympics warm during the next 18 months, as Canadians look at attention and money on the hope of the Vancouver 2010, is what officials blindly term the "evolutionary leap" in Beijing. 47 per cent of the 37 individuals and teams rated as legitimate Canadian contenders actually reached the podium. Four years



ago in Athens, where the team collected just 13 medals, the figure was 56 per cent. It's a somewhat improvement, but more crucially, a difference in who is winning them—these are the athletes that the Canadian sports system has focused its resources on. The competitors who are living up to the country's—and their own—high expectations.

WE CAN'T MATCH THE U.K.'S FUNDING—\$1.1 BILLION BEFORE THE 2012 LONDON GAMES

I would be a stretch to call Elaine Heymans a national. Whatnot sorrow, tears, or joy the Montreal, Que., diver feels as normally large will under wraps. But in the 10-nation preliminary competition in Athens, when she launched another final dive with a gold medal in her grasp, and surfaced in fourth place, she won points off the podium, the facade cracked. Eyes downcast, she stood before a chorus of reporters and delivered a heated self-assessment: "I choked," she said.

In Beijing, the icy cool Heymans was back, barely cracking a smile, even as she stood on the podium to receive her silver. Performing before a raucous and largely local crowd at the Water Cube—Chinese divers having dominated the international scene—the 37-year-old made no concessions to the pressure. And this time, with everything on the line, Heymans delivered an almost flawless fifth and final dive, scoring 58.06 points for an instant 3½ comeback, and rising to the top of the leader board. It was only a perfect dive by China's Chen Ruixin—earning four 10s from the judges and 50.30 points—that snatched away the gold. Heymans wasn't born to talk about the

difference between losing Athens gold and winning Beijing silver. "I've grown a lot since then, a lot of things have changed. I was really able to stay focused on what I had to do," was about as close as she came. But her results as personally reflected the "rehabilitation" that was needed to bring her not only her self-esteem, but her love of the sport. "I know there was a lot of soul searching and lot of wondering if I was going to keep it," says Mandy Gellert, the high-performance director of Diving Canada. "And I think we were a little fortunate. If Athens had paid off, I'm not sure we would have won her here." It's only an hour after that last dive, when a reporter points out to Heymans that she has joined an elite club, as one of only five Canadians to reach the podium in three consecutive Summer Games (she earned synchro 10-milling silver in Sydney, and a three-metre synchro bronze in Athens) that the medals stop. "Every body will know your name," he insists. "Maybe," she replies with a giggle.

Two nights before, it had been Alexandre Despatte's turn to defy the odds. In 2004, he was thought to have a shot at three medals, but emerged with just one, a silver at the

WINNER, LOSER: Silver medalist Whitfield has sampled the full range of Olympic experience; the triumphant Chen Ruixin

three-metre springboard. The end result was the same in Beijing—he finished 40 points behind Chen's 10. Chen, capturing another springboard record—but this time there was a sense of triumph rather than disappointment. This past spring, Despatte broke his foot in a spoolside accident. The injury kept him away from the diving board for seven weeks, and he missed all of the regular pre-Olympic tune-up competitions. "My silver medal is gold to me, after all of the bad things that happened," he says. "I dove for me."

It was left to Sylvie Bernier, the torch chief de mission in Beijing and the last Canadian, to win a diving gold (Los Angeles, 1984), to explain to people back home the scale of both Bernier and Alexandre's accomplishments. "To have China and Canada up there next to each other on the podium is exceptional. China is naturally as far out as I can. I think we're quietly coming up," she says, still dripping wet from being pushed into the pool during the post-Heymans celebrations. "There's a lot of pressure at the Games. Honestly, it's the most pressure ever in the life of an athlete. And the most distractions. The whole world is watching."

The Canadian Olympic Committee and its sporting federations have gone to great lengths in recent years to try and insulate their top athletes from those stresses. In the wake of the Athens debacle, non-performing and first-time sports saw their landing car, and the resources allocated to more promising events. The Olympic risk-averse of the fabled and the new has grown to include on-site physiotherapists, masseurs, nutritionists and sports psychologists. Canada Olympic House—this time a resurgent near the main press—has become an exclusive refuge for athletes and their families (Dorcas Bailey, winner of two springboard golds in 1996, was reportedly turned away at the door. And when CBC held press conference for medal winners, the media were asked to use a public bathroom in the adjoining park.) The medalists' gold-medal winning men's eight rowers was planned out months in advance, and a number of equipment including new machines, exercise bike and physiotherapy mats was shipped to their hotel. The canoeists and kayakers, who competed at Shunyi Park, an hour outside of Beijing, had a couple of common rooms at their hotel, complete with big screen TV's tuned to the CBC feed, and a poker table. The head of the federation even made a run into the city to fill the paddlers' orders for souvenirs.

None of that, however, guarantees a medal.

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ONE CHINESE STAR WASN'T TOLD OF HER MOTHER'S CANCER TILL AFTER SHE WON

performance in the Summer Games, his job is to demand it, not just personal, but to think that attitude adjustment and that cultural change is starting to happen, but we still have a long way to go," he says. "So the end we have to make some hard decisions. We're focused on success. We're focused on getting on that podium." This fall, the sports federations will submit their budget plans for the next Olympic cycle and make their pitches for a share of the new funding—\$24 million a year by 2010— earmarked to boost Canada's medal haul at London 2012 and beyond. The stakes are high: Canada's Olympic budget, for example, rose its annual budget double to \$2 billion after the Vancouver 2010 success. Performance in Beijing doesn't count, says Beaumont, but not as much as potential. "If there is true medal potential going into 2012, we'll take a look at funding those sports. We have to take a look at what athletes they have and the system, what coaches they have, and what the structure." Can they produce in a four-year time frame?

It will be a tall order: Canada can't match the type of investment Great Britain made to prepare its gold and a total of 49 medals—a score better provided US\$440 million as it ran up to Beijing, and will hand over to a billion more before the London Games. Noran was instrumental in establishing a Chinese system that produced 51 golds and 100 medals. Cao Li, who won one of those golds in

CANADIAN FUTURE, was only told of her mother's June death shortly before the Games. Chen Yiyue's learner mother has brain cancer, and after she won 25m pistol shooting gold. And Chen Ruohui, the 19-year-old who beat Heymans, admits to feeling the pressure to maintain her weight (66kg/145lb) figure—she was ordered to stop dinner for a year—instead of growing like a normal doper (Heymans is at least a foot taller and lived at 62 kg or 137 lb).

But we will be muddled on our own way. In the new reality of Canadian sports, a Ryan Cochran, the 19-year-old winner of the 100m butterfly in men's 1,500 in swimming, is worth more than a Cao Li. Heymans, the ongoing gold medal winner from Macedonia, B.C., who at 38, is unlikely to return to the next four years' London. Cochran was in the first group of the medal series that the IOC wants to be something in the way of an Olympic starting ceremony and a second battle with the Australian great Grant Hackett, one of their 2008 "convention." But Heymans, his coach, says he has known that the Victoria swimmer had that special something for years. When Ryan was just 15, Beaumont lost patience with his antics one day in practice and ordered him to swim "80 no-handed at a minute." It "was an even swam phrase once decided—it works out to eight kilometres in an hour and 45 minutes. Beaumont admits it was a ridiculous punishment, especially for a boy. Although what sticks in his mind was Cochran's reaction. "He finished the set, he got out of the pool, and he flipped me the bird and walked out," says Beaumont. "And I knew he was stubborn, and that's what makes him great."

Four years from now, Canada is counting on that kind of winner spirit. "With all honesty, says he will be back. So will we know whether it's harder to say with the others. And if the country is to meet Beaumont's ambitious goals, others will have to come forward in track, rowing and in the pool. Cochran, however, is a sure thing, says his coach. "The greatest thing with Ryan is he's the one that set the tone. He's the guy that talks about being best in the world. He's the one who makes that we focus on that every day."

BOBBING K/VI TIRES OF HIS TASTE OF THE SEA
The first few bays jumps were head first, but Auckland resident Mike Havel gave back of getting his head out of the water for the most bays jump in a day and, after opting to go fast first, made 103 jumps off the city's Auckland Harbour Bridge in just 10 hours. "I was going to lose sleep," Havel said of his initial head-first approach. "It's not nice coming up like a big fish with your stomach full of saltwater."



ONE FOR THE BOOKS
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HIGHS AND LOWS AT THE GAMES

HE'S A CHAMPION IN TWO NATIONS

It was a bit strange and a lot heartwarming to see Canadian Olympic icon Daniel Igali in the yellow Olympic in the sports uniform of his native Nigeria. Igali, who won gold for Canada in Sydney in 2000, was coaching two freestyle wrestlers from the troubled Niger Delta. Both his charges, Amarcha Obiagwu and Willie Seiwani, lost in their first rounds, but that wasn't the point. Wrestling was Igali's ticket to a better life and he hopes his volunteer work has a similar effect on younger Nigerians. He's also establishing a school in his home village of Ekaiani. That's a championship legacy.

DIAMOND STUDS AND A QUICK WIT

Syrianians are so adroit at what proceeds are to be—highly, easily and always on display. Jared Camacho, from tiny New Haven, Conn., certainly took the part with his two diamond earrings and impressive tattoos. But the 27-year-old, who once trained on the state's sand dunes and the 190-mahogany at high school, also has a very sense of humor. After making it to the 200-m semifinals, he came in seventh. (Slightly advanced) Coach Knappe delivered the best quote of the Games. "I don't like running late now, but it's the Olympics," he said. "If they asked me to run at the first now of the season, I would."

CANDIDING FOR A HUNGARIAN ANGEL

Everyone's got a bad mood during a day in Beijing. After when Anita Sander, Welsh flyweight gave his paddling mad complaints something to cheer about with a victory in the C-200-m canoe (Canada's Tim Hall took the bronze), it was humorous. With a race with a black band on his arm to honor his late father, György

Kolontsi, a two-time Olympic champion, who suffered a fatal heart attack during a training session July 17. Kolontsi was just 36. "I know he is with us from heaven and holds our hand," Vajda said, dedicating his gold to his fallen friend.

A BEKINI CULTURAL REVOLUTION

"I believe that we have created a historic breakthrough," and Wangjie, one of the two female Chinese beach volleyball finalists, where extremely popular games were broadcast repeatedly on China Central Television. Beach volleyball's heavy exposure was something compared to the exposure of the volleyball championships. Gorbunov's jump before they'd been given by the "volleyball activities department" of the Beijing Organizing Committee, "beach dancers" are something of a revolution in China. But the girls made dancing as around look any, thanks in part to guidance from Spanish dancers and their director imported from the Canary Islands. Cultural activities have never looked so appealing.

NO MEDAL, BUT LOTS OF METTLE

Canadian expect their hockey team to play last, but the new standard of national toughness might be their guarantee. Not only did Kyle Shestak make it to Beijing after breaking both his legs last summer, but his teammate Brandon O'Reill competed on a team that he would have been a cast. Taping and taping got him through the week and period, but he had to jump running when the ankle began to slip out of place. O'Reill was stee. But Susan Maestri, the team physician, couldn't hide her tears. "On a scale of 10, where 10 is an unbearable pain, he was probably nine to eight or nine on every landing," she confessed.

MELTDOWN ON THE DIVING PLATFORM

Hurling yourself off a 10-m-high platform is daunting enough. Having to do it before a panel of judges and worldwide television audience can make even the toughest act. In the semifinals of the women's competition, the incredibly brave Alexandra Crook of Australia had a meltdown, blowing all five of her dives and finishing dead last, a painful spectacle. Clearly unnerved, Crook hunched before every jump, lip quivering, rethinking, trying to find the will to jump. Once safely back on dry land, the 14-year-old received a medical check from coaches and trainers. Her sports psychologist new faces on Olympic challenge.

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SAM KNOWS THE AGONY OF DEFEAT

Vancouver Mayor Sam Sullivan, who famously won the Olympic bid from Montreal when chairing during the Winter Games closing ceremonies in Torino, was in Beijing for a smaller set way. He was drumming up support for the 2010 Winter Games, so doubt a painful subject for him.

Sullivan won't be the last to escape when the world comes to Vancouver with months. He recently lost his once-party's mayoralty in a by-election of 60 of 2007 votes, a result of the narrow margin that kept some Canadians off the podium. "Politics is the same way," he said, "if you don't get the numbers, it doesn't matter if it's by one or 100,000."

EXPLAINING THAT 'JAMAICAN THING'

After his third Olympic gold, and his third consecutive perfect run, reporters asked Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt what he was up to when he moved on the track and cooled his arms up in the crowd. "Shooting an arrow," Sam Manning, lightning's just having fun, explained the world's fastest man, who called his pose "20 the World." "It's a Jamaican thing," he said, "you wouldn't understand." Consider this response from Jamaican Prime Minister Bruce Golding, who added the world stage to national celebration for Jamaica's amazing Olympic success. "Null things a go pass, null, null things," he said. This appears to translate from the jamaican roughly as, "Machado."

THE PRIDE OF PORY ALBERNI

Sometimes you can't lose for winning, and so it was for David Cross, freestyle wrestler and Pory Alberni, B.C., firefighter. His run on the Olympic wrestling mats lasted just four minutes before he narrowly lost to his Turkish opponent. In the weeks since 64 cheering residents of Cross's hometown, just some of the hundreds of locals who raised their hands to cheer him on during the past two years. "Those every minutes it wasn't just for the four minutes it was wrestling on there, it was the whole journey," a grateful Cross said after his match. "It's made me a better person." The loss did nothing to dim the spirit of Pory Alberni, said Ross McElroy, his former school wrestling coach. "It's about who we are as human beings, it's about how we treat other people, and it's about what we do with our lives."

THE WHEFF WHAFF CAPITAL OF SPORT

What a contrast the 2012 London Olympics will be from Beijing. In China, everything was under complete control. In England, if London Mayor Boris Johnson is an example, everything will be completely open. On Sunday, Johnson boasted that all Olympic sports had been "either unimpeded or coddled by the British. Ping-Pong was invented on the dining tables of England in the 19th century and was called 'whiff-whiff,'" he said. "That's the closest, the closest, looked at a dining table and saw an opportunity to play whiff-whiff." In the context, difference between us and the rest of the world. Observations of the British looked at a dining table and saw an opportunity to play whiff-whiff. It's no less an explanation to why Britain's history earned out the way it is. W

NO MEDAL FOR BEING A BOOR

One of the biggest losses in Beijing was Gustav-Borgen wrestler Åke Abrahamsson of Sweden. He had to be restrained from declaring one-side victory after he lost a semifinals match as a defeated

call. After winning bronze in a subsequent bout, he dropped the medal on the mat and walked away in disgust. The Court of Arbitration in Sport later ruled that Abrahamsson had a valid excuse, but videotape came to light for the fully Sweden. The IOC had already ejected him and stripped him of the medal.

MORE THAN THE MELODY LINGERS ON

First there was the pretty little girl who whistled the ending of a long-gone lullaby at the opening ceremonies. But came Peter Dinklage's allegory there was an even bigger howl. Berlin orchestra more than 200 national anthems for the Athens Games and he says that the Beijing Games had his arrangements without someone's judgment or payment. He also says that in songs inspired the one of Americans who believed he'd smoothed out the aggression from their anthem, so it was quickly reworked during the ceremony. If Berlin is correct, Chinese use of his works before an audience of billions could become of the biggest copyright infringement cases of all time. That's a world record.

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Short stories. Very long knives.

Jane Urquhart's Penguin anthology has kick-started a juicy literary feud BY PAUL WELLS

media

In the introduction to *The Penguin Book of Canadian Short Stories*, which she edited, novel-ist Jane Urquhart writes that she wanted to "spec up and make more interesting" the definition of the short story.

Well, mission accomplished. Although perhaps not quite the way Urquhart had hoped. "What appalling arrogance in Urquhart," the prolific editor, author and anthologist John McElduff writes in the latest issue of *Canadian Notes and Queries*, a literary journal. "What mislead, what groping dimness about short-story history and development." As for Urquhart's decision to mix short stories with excerpts from non-fiction collections,

McElduff jokes it is "Not as if she [had] this idea in her head: 'I'm a doctress; short stories are the province of artistic form.'"

"We seem to have missed across that sense of events in the general province of Canadian literature," a literary feud. And McElduff is not alone. He has brought around

Earlier this summer, in an annual fest of co-operation, two literary magazines, *The New Quarterly* and *Canadian Notes and Queries*, published (in various special editions with non-identical covers) The goal was to showcase writers Urquhart left out of her collection last fall, so "tweak the book" of the anthology. This jointly curated "Soldier Refused" (named after a parallel exhibit for artists who were left out of the Paris Salon in 1882) has become the talk of literary Canada. It has sparked debate, brought widespread attention to the two spunky journals, and in course, poured the sales of Urquhart's own book and led to rumors, even among the press's magazines, over the proper bounds of criticism and dissent.

In the beginning there was the anthology. Penguin publishes a lot of anthologies. There is a *Penguin Book of Irish Fiction*, a *Penguin Book of the Sonnets* and a *Penguin Book of Modern African Poetry*. Eventually, Penguin got

around to publishing a book of Canadian short stories. They chose Urquhart, whose novels, including *Amey*, *The Stone Carvers* and *A Map of Glass*, have made her one of Canada's most famous women of letters.

Urquhart admitted in her collection's introduction that she wasn't the obvious person to create a short-story collection. "It's along with many others—had paid more attention in recent years to the short story's fit, loud corner, the novel."

Her anthology generated respectful reviews in newspapers' book pages when it first appeared, but there was grumbling in short-story circles about its partiality. (There are such circles. They are small, sparsely populated, and, as a rule, neither fit nor loud.) McElduff and excerpts from novels mixed with bona fide short stories? A book divided into five themes, as though some considerations besides literary quality had driven the choice?

Daniel Wells, the editor of *Canadian Notes and Queries*, emailed Kim Jernigan, the editor of *The New Quarterly*, and asked if she shared his concerns. She did, up to a point. Both found a lot to like in the Penguin anthology, including brilliant writers like Alice Munro, Mavis Gallant, Alistair MacLeod, Lisa Moore and Gary Vanderhaeghe. But both were baffled by some of the selections. "What was Adrienne Clarkson doing in there, with a short story she published in *Maclean's* in 1961, while she was still *Adrienne La Plante*?" "I love Charles Reade, but as a short story writer?" Wells writes about the career diplomat and fondly remembered memoirist. "I did not know Clara Mood was Canadian. And Michael Ondaatje?"

Most of all, the two editors were united to think of all the writers they value most highly, writers whose work Urquhart had left out of the 700-page collection. Jernigan writes: "They include some of the masters of the story form (John McElduff, Clark Blaise, Norman Levine), writers who are picking up the language (Terry Griggs, Mark Kozak-Jean), and writers who tell a story

(Diane Schoemperles, Russell Smith, Douglas Glover, Steven Hargreaves) or exploring the concerns of a whole new generation of Canadians (Sharon English, Heather Ruffell)?

So the two magazines decided to collaborate on a joint showcase of the left-out writers. Each chose 10 Montreal-based young and emerging writers with small, recent and literary reputations for most of their career. Two of the 20, Laraine and Hugh Hood, are no longer alive, "writers whose reputations we'd hate to have the wind cheat," Jernigan writes.

The two special issues are gorgeous, with most stories accompanied by appreciative essays from colleagues and explanatory notes by the authors themselves. The editors have already jointly written in Toronto a joint discussion of the issues surrounding short-story writing, part of *Pagel bookends* ("This Is Not A Reading Series"). They plan more public events. For two years now *Canadiana* has a circulation of about 1,000 copies Canada-wide, launching this project has been a formidable effort.

It has also opened new rifts between the two magazines' editors. "It's been somewhat and incredibly tense—well, yes, tense—since," Jernigan told *Willis* in an interview. (*Willis* is no relative to the reporter of this article.) *Canadiana* editors and *Quinn* and the *Quinn* have different temperaments. The *New Quarterly* is gentle, nurturing, scholarly; it makes friends easily.

CNQ can do the nurturing thing, but its burgeoning reputation has meant to do this to its ability to get fierce and sticky. The journal's editors some used to be its original mandate. It was launched in 1966 by Will Mossley, who ran the next book division of the Queen's University library. Mossley used to be a book dealer for sale and queries about other books. When the Internet threatened that mandate, CNQ shifted into literary criticism, first under Douglas (now George) Fetherling and then, from the late 1990s, under Mitchell.

You don't want to read with John Mitchell. Since he moved to Canada in 1961, he has become one of Canada's foremost editors, a highly regarded story writer in his own right, and a fierce critic of the writing that isn't up to his standards. One of the days his position as senior editor of CNQ is largely responsible. *Willis* was selected for the *Salon de la Relecture* issue, but Mitchell's opening essay makes the case against Urquhart's anthology with singular force.

"Who is a Virgil Reader?" he asks on one of Urquhart's chosen writers, "and what has he written? His written work adds to the *World, Sales of a Medieval*



Low (1981) and A Can of Worms (1994)
"What sort of stuff is it?"
"Awful."

On another, "[Hugh] Grenier wrote an halfway decent story, 'The Yellow Swans,' but by research could be described as an artist. He was a pleasant enough man when asked."

Mitchell has edited dozens of anthologies and nurtured many careers. It is possible to imagine that in another world he could have been called on to edit, say, a Penguin anthology. "Are there any gaps in this?" he writes, "You bet."

But Mitchell, *Willis* and the rest of the CNQ clique make their position over literary standards, not a clear divide between inside and outside. In a recent column, Mitchell writes, the choice of "a popular practitioner," such as Urquhart to edit a definitive story collection would have sparked "a storm of protest and denunciation in the literary world." Not here, he feels. "What I despair of in the year Canadian literature."

And yet you've read Canadian literature has been a subject. The CNQ New Quarterly project has touched a nerve, with coverage in the Toronto Star and on the CBC, a level of deluxe Canadian literary readership. The Not A Reading Series event, at the two local high schools (Gladstone in Hazelton, Tinsmith's Queen Street West), started organizers by drawing nearly 200 people.

But that crowd came for a fight they were disappointed. Jernigan on most of the night's discussion with Urquhart's discussion. The New Quarterly has brought to this exhibi-

Metcalf piles it on: 'Not an aesthetic idea in her head!' he writes about editor Urquhart

nonwith its reader reviews at CNO. In her issue, Jernigan calls Urquhart's collection "a only gathering, leaning in to the magazine."

The magazine has a non-confessional interview with Urquhart, who says, "I was more than the beginning that people was going to be upset and this should be said."

The Gladstone event featured three authors, two critics, and David Willis changing at the table. Jernigan led most of the discussion with readers, non-confessional and paid. "I am of the belief," Jernigan said, "that this is a little bit of an adventure."

"I have been feeling that way," Willis replied. Jernigan said her role in this little adventure was "a bit of adversity," not so much a threat of what is adding to it.

The CNO crew, which finally arrived speaking up in the event's closing minutes, was much less bashful about making trouble. With the early Adelaide Gladstone story and the Gladstone "space" was taken up on the Urquhart book. "I think that could have been better," said. And James Mitchell Kelly, a Calgary critic and novelist who has an essay in CNO's *Adelaide*, said, "I don't think any one should apologize for saying that."

"In order to have a vibrant culture," book blogger Stephen B. Vincent said, "you need to have an honest discussion about that culture. And that requires tough criticism."

Both Urquhart and Jernigan have responded to by law through all of this. In response to a request for comment, Urquhart, through her agent, turned down an interview request from Mitchell. The publisher said this question from Mitchell, publisher and publisher David Dore. "We're proud to be the publisher of The Penguin Line of Canadian Short Stories edited by Jane Urquhart, Jane is an exceptional writer and editor and her editorial eye has made the book a best seller and been well received critically. We have no doubt that it will remain a top seller and delight readers for a long time to come." And indeed it might. But it will no longer go unchallenged.

help



AS SHE WORKS, she's in the office, I don't want my children to be forced to pull the plug on their mother.

First, I want unlimited painkillers

A medical expert talks about why you should stop postponing writing that living will

BY JULIA MCINNES • It was after she gave CPR to a cancer-stricken 84-year-old woman that Denise Godkin started thinking about a new, more scientific direction for her writing career. She was working in Alberta at the time. "As I anticipated to be a nurse, I was her help body, my life came into contact with her—blue, clean, cool and lifeless. My physical response was immediate and I was off guard. I rushed to the staff bathroom where I vomited."

Godkin learned later from the woman's family that "the unpleasant goal of her care for the remainder of her days was to have been comforted." Instead, "the last woman was unable with large bore needles, stopped with electricity and physically battered with chest compressions by a successful of men." Godkin believed the last "personality continued to a system that failed to provide the best possible care to a patient."

The witness of the nurse left Godkin to write her coming-of-age novel. She published a guidebook for anyone who feels the way she does about writing control on the Internet. She says she moved at the end of her last term. "I don't know if it's a good idea to write with a dead person," she says. "I don't know if it's a good idea to write with a dead person." She says she moved at the end of her last term. "I don't know if it's a good idea to write with a dead person," she says. "I don't know if it's a good idea to write with a dead person."

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Godkin followed 11 elderly Canadian as they got their papers in order. One woman died. "If you anticipate that you never want to be put on life support, I might get that quicker than I was supposed to."

"The most important thing," emphasizes Godkin, "is the conversation you have with the person you've chosen to be your substitute decision-maker. Writing it down is to help guide the person who is making the decision for you." Godkin has it in her head that "if I don't communicate or interact with my environment in some meaningful way, I wouldn't want to live." If she got pneumonia, for instance, "I wouldn't want to be intubated to live. I would want to be the woman I was, type of thing."

Another woman put it this way: "I don't want my life to continue if I have to live on a respirator or with a ventilator for the rest of my life. I don't want to be intubated to live. I would want to be the woman I was, type of thing."

She says she moved at the end of her last term. "I don't know if it's a good idea to write with a dead person," she says. "I don't know if it's a good idea to write with a dead person."

because that's just hellish to worry about addition when someone is dying."

"Without exception," writes Godkin, "every one I talked with had seen others, most often a close family member, suffer to the point of health care professionals. Some had serious of serious surgery been performed. Others had serious of serious surgery been performed. Others had serious of serious surgery been performed."

The health position in most hospitals is to anticipate "if we don't have direction to do otherwise," Godkin said in a phone interview last week from her new post in Toronto as manager for the Centre for Clinical Ethics. The Alberta woman who made Godkin think about the issue was without a written Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) or No Further Life-Sustaining Treatment (NLST) order.

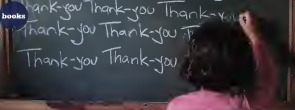
"We heard many jokes about having 'No CPR' instead on their chests," she said. "CPR has a very low success rate in terms of success rate, very low like 10 to 20 per cent. Unless it's done very quickly, brain damage begins to occur. CPR is not a miracle." CPR was never intended for the terminally ill, she says. "I was intended for sudden cardiac arrest, drowning and anoxia." "It's a miracle," Godkin says, "to consider that life-saving technology developed to benefit humanity and to support life have become the enemy when death is imminent." ■

HIGH IMPROVED

CÉLINE DION

She never completed a high school but she's still managed to make millions, so she must know something. Last week, Quebec City's Université Laval recognized that something by naming Dion City's first honorary doctorate. Even more on it: Dr. Dion is now, and will be, the first woman to be named. "I think it's something that's very important, it's my wish to make it go further, to the maximum of my abilities, to the top of my goals and my dreams."





IT'S DIFFICULT to teach kids to say 'Thank you,' and even harder to get them to actually feel thankful, especially if it's not hard-wired.

Thanks for everything and nothing

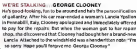
Margaret Visser's intriguing social history of an overlooked human virtue: gratitude

Although Canadian voters at Vimy Ridge in Belgium were much larger. To ensure a clear spot of land that the Germans had used as a trench, the Allies suffered 116,000 casualties, including 16,000 Canadian. The battle was waged amid relentless rain as a cratered wasteland of mud, dog shit and barbed wire. "It wasn't a good, well-blended landscape," says Gross, who memorized the battlefield on the Trench 1000 in the Calgary series. Canadian Forces troops served as extras, and, adding an accent of authenticity, Ling, Gen. Gregory Gable's portrayer, Lt. Gen. Arthur Currie.

The combat scenes were "exhausting and inspiring," recalls the director. "War was tracked to the set daily from the plumes of low-flying to supply giant rain tanks. On

The famous dentist in *The City of Dreadful Night* concerns the Anglo-world's mission for righteous thoughts, notions, views, beliefs, in a common sense or individualism. If an some of our comrades were to neither solely define nor contradict to approve, we need something to mark the auspicious moment. So consider the words of the crusade spinning her eyes in the poor English apostrophe: "We have to tell people of this 'thar'le' and 'thou'k' you have to come atations where a 'hiperive' might respond 'An' thirble anyer,' and 'This is posson to my soul' (both acknowledging the (negative) has taken time and that the mission has replaced a debt, non Arab exerts any 'Ma God enclaver it' for money or a meal. So we expand our thesis to be more on a case—'Thar' you cryped each other,' or 'Oh, thar' you 'ar,' as an answer, in a way more cultural than a non-represented and direct to the

It's easy to lead a reader to conclude that it's meaningless, a syllable or two used by rote to flow easy through life. Sometimes yes of course, but Vinter insists that only scratches the surface. Moving around the world isn't across time, "unspinning" gratitude by linking to no other forms we admire: the loyalty, or counting how best cultures learned gratitude as a particularly insidious trait. The Gift of Thanks comes to a graceful conclusion. In the end, gratitude is simply recognition, an expression of our awareness that we are not alone or self-sufficient, that we have reason to acknowledge the kindness of others. *Thanks, Margaret* ■



WE'RE STRALKING... GEORGE CLOONEY
He's good-looking, fun to be around and has the personification of gallantry. After his car rear-ended a woman's Lancia "Ippolito" in Pennabilli, Italy, Clooney apologized and immediately offered to pay for the repairs. But when the woman got to her repair shop, she discovered that Clooney had bought her a brand-new Lancia. Attached to the windshield was a handwritten note: "I'm so sorry, here you'll forget me, George Clooney."

It is difficult to teach gratitude partly because the please/thank you exchange lacks the naturalness of baby or hye-bye that natural infants unhesitatingly recognize. ("Say 'thank you,'" says the parent. "Why?" wonders a corner of the child's mind. "You



FINALLY, A BOOK ABOUT... WAR AND ART FORGERY
 IN 1945, Hans Van Meegeren, arrested for having sold a priceless Vermeer to Nazi leader Hermann Göring, firmed from villain to Dutch national hero when he confessed that he had faked it. According to Jonathan Lippman's sweeping biography, *The Man Who Made Vermeers* (Rizzoli, \$25), it was merely the most audacious move in a life built on lies: not only was Van Meegeren a professional, not pseudonymous, forger, he really was a Nazi collaborator.

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MACLEAN'S
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ROGERS

People of Canada, we shall be lied to with class!



SCOTT
 FRIESEN

The political war room—it's a campaign tradition that transcends party and leader and, most important, truthfulness. But the impending federal election promises something new: the Conservatives will have the largest, most advanced and loudest war room in our nation's history. Besides, people of Canada? This time we're going to be lied to with class.

For many years now, loyalty of all parts was a strap—surely of them young, most of them well-meaning, all of them going to hell. If God's a sucker on the whole, "honesty" thing—how trivially turned around several weeks of lies has during campaigns in and around the clock in their party's war room. It is a belief they do this largely because it is called "the war room." Calling it "the war room" makes it sound as though Eisenhower himself is in there, boldly plotting a strategy to save the free world from Nazis, when in fact it's mostly just a bunch of 24-year-old nice-would-be-CPAC and neglecting to shower. Power would volunteer if the premier were called by the more accurate name of Room That Still Smells of the Luncheon Meat They Took To War Delivered Three Days Ago.

Still, the war room has become a campaign staple—the source of news releases, fact checks and, above all, ruthless hyperbole. During the coming campaign, Conservatives will have never more unity than in their operation than ever because they believe a superior war room will provide a crucial advantage in a media age defined by the 24-hour news cycle, an infatuation with Mike Duffy belatedly reading stuff directly to his TV audience from his BlackBerry without acknowledging that information in any way whatsoever. "This just is, a Nigerian prince has made me a millionaire—so keep secrets!"

No matter your party affiliation, it always feels good to tell the first lie in a new war room. Break the hockey cherry. Get a feel for the place and see how the handles. In the same way that a new ship is christened by taking a bottle of champagne and smashing it against the hull, the Conservative war room will be christened on the first day of the campaign by taking a bottle of champagne and smashing it to the hull. The champagne will take flight in luxurious confusion. According to media reports, the

The concept of a high-tech war room is that it features a teleprinter and what has been described as "high-speed worthy lighting." The studio will come in handy during the day, when party operatives will use it to respond instantly to oppositional attacks, and at night, when they will use it to respond to a click in the morning, when Peter MacKay will awaken to direct and steer his own campaign of Hagen's PJ. The good news for



The war room will showcase Harper cabinet stars, like What's his Nose—the Tallish Dude

Conservative war room runs at about 10,000 sq. ft., which is an incredible amount of floor space and includes my personal theory that Stephen Harper intends to unveil and promote all his new policies through the space and persuasive power of his operations direct. Practically, though, now down at Liberal HQ believes say, which explains why the party's in for behind in establishing a Quick Response Feedforwarding Team.

The Conservative war room has scores of desks, banks of telephones, televisions and computers, make-up rooms, meeting rooms, helpful signage to campaign workers can remember the difference between "misinformation" and "disinformation," ergonomic chairs, ergonomic desks, a kitchenette, a Starbucks, a snack bar and a bathroom plus sets which Harper can just offhand blacked handbooks. Also, three coffins!

Clearly, the party has come a long way from the election of 2004, when the Conservative war room basically consisted of one lonely guy responding to opposition news by yelling through a bullhorn. "I know you are blue as an IP" (Also, the team failed. The team's Liberal had already double-checked pre-created their responses.)

Canada is that, with so much video being produced, there's a chance we'll get to see the back of Stephen Harper's face when he discovers that this time he actually has to run for office.

Having their own studio gives Conservatives an edge. It allows them to assign some time to some of the cabinet members whom Harper has allowed to give names and national profiles, including... with... That Guy With the Glasses and the other one, What's His Nose—the Tallish Dude. It also enables the party to produce high quality video material for the Internet, enabling the Prime Minister to speak directly to Canadians and tell them why he ought to be allowed to stay at 24 Sussex (Residence No. 1: "All my stuff! Already there.")

So the Conservatives have a big head start for a persuasive full campaign—both don't count out the opposition just yet. The Liberal plan to unveil their own war room, just as now in the front desk at the Holiday Inn, says their deluxe with two double beds is ready.

ON THE WEB: To read Friesen on the famous war room blog, visit www.macleans.ca/foreshadow

PETER ROBERT DOMAN

1952-2008

As a combat engineer, he was cool and unruffled; Barbara was both his wife and his patron saint

Peter Robert Doman was born on June 18, 1952, in Corner Brook, Nfld., the third of four children, to Marie, a house-maid, and David, who worked in the pulp mill. Pete had a few stars in his life: he did not speak until he began school. Their home, on Doman's Lane—named on a century ago after a minor feud with another family—overlooked the Bay of Islands, where the Doman family caught cod, and fished onto the vast waters where Pete learned to love the forest. Soon it was hard to keep him quiet. A smart boy, Pete struggled with school, putting more time in friends and in the army days he dragged home than in his studies. One day he showed up, grinning, to announce he'd failed the year. "He was a little racist," says his father.

As the Doman kept no liquor, it was with some surprise that David one day saw Pete, at 15, with the boys by the truck, a beer in his hand. "I'm taking you right to the shop," he told him. "I thought that would give him a taste." As they neared the store, David grew dismayed at his son's cost. "I was more nervous than he was," he says, instead he took him home. Friends dubbed Pete "Rocky," "after the movie boxer," says David, his younger brother. "He was quick, he could handle himself with the guys." Even with heavy training in St. John's, he could find no work and decided on the army. To get fit, he served on a peacetime regiment, walking five kilometers alone into the woods each day with a backpack and in use, and building a cabin. Pete enlisted in 1974, training as a heavy equipment operator in C18R, a combat engineering division, and learning to handle the Zermattier, a 22-tonne snow-removal loader.

He was 24 and untested in battle when he met Barbara Hicks, in Chatham, N.C. A transplant from northern England and a fellow soldier, Barb first saw him in the mess hall on a camp, and she says that the soldier's sex was his face: "I thought, 'What a beautiful man!'" They were married in October 1980. Though his troops in Europe the Croatian and Serbian took him away for months at a time, they were happy. "Our marriage had more ups than downs," she says. They shared a love for animals. "We are on our third dog now," says Barb. Friends took teasing them about their "kiddo." Says one, "It was Pete who taught me true compassion for animals." The couple adored Italy. On their last visit there, Barb

thought him yet another Saint Barbara medal. "Pete wasn't a religious man," Barb says, "but when he wore his dog tags, he being the patron saint of military engineers around his neck with his wedding ring. Whenever he laid one and he did that on numerous occasions I would say, 'See? She gave up her life for you!'"

Never self-conscious ("I saw that boy naked more times than I saw my natus—don't put that in," says an army buddy), Pete always had dirt under his nails and delighted in homey work clothes. If he called his heavy black and red checked coat a "Newfound land dinner jacket," he didn't mind. Such pragmatism extended to his work in Afghanistan, "when things came over and added as how it was going," says an old comrade, "Pete would just roll up them."

Whether from Kabul or Kandahar, Pete always made it home on Christmas and the old house on Voodoo Mountain where he and Barb, who was stationed in Edmonton, planned to retire. Fellow soldiers attribute his disability to his pragmatic competence and an unflinching, engaging manner. "He could throw Pete on the middle of a desert with no water or food and he would come out smiling—because he would complain about it later," says one. And he could get out of scrapes. Pete was playing snow-filled parson on a mountain top near Kabul when a truck ran into the slope. He dropped the bucket to "cave himself to a stop," says a friend. Still, after two years, Pete, now Major Corporal, refused a new posting to Afghanistan, instead taking a quiet support job in Chatham. Some of the comrades struggled with post-combat stress. "I'm not going on the Crazy Train," said Pete, who relied by fixing up his home and growing blueberries and peaches.

On Sat., Aug. 2, Pete and his boss, Master Warrant Officer Terry Haley, were in his basement. Making away a cement wall, part of a plan to add a second story. "Everything was done properly," says Haley. Pete had even dug a trench in the wall's corner so it would fall out. Instead, when he reached an incidental piece of plywood, the wall fell in. Pete was buried in tons of cement from mid-chest down and died in the scene. Says Barb, "I told him to take the Saint Barbara medal with him when he did the digging. But I don't think he had it on." BY KIRKCUCK BÖHLER AND BARBARA RIGHTON



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